



The Final Stretch!



Nutcracker is just around the corner! All the dancers are working so hard, and the hard work is paying off! It's looking like it's going to be another great show! We know this is

not only an exciting time, but also a potentially confusing time, especially for our newer families. We hope to answer as many questions as possible in this newsletter, so please read carefully.

Make Up, Hair, Costumes, & Pictures

Here are some general guidelines for hair and makeup. If you need a more detailed refresher, look at the ABA Handbook on our website under the Newsletters heading.

For make up, you want powder foundation about a shade darker than your child's normal skin tone, blush that is not too neutral, purple and brown eye shadows, eyeliner, mascara, and red lip stick.

Note: Bon Bons get red circles on their cheeks. Annie has a saying that you should put on a little more than you think is necessary, add even more, and then you will be getting close to how much they need. ☺ A lot of makeup is necessary in such a large theatre so that we can see everyone's facial features!

For hair everyone (**Except** Bon Bons, Boys, Party Girls, and Baby Dolls), should have their hair in a straight back, slicked back bun. Be sure to use a hair color hair net (not one made of yarn), lots of pins, and gel/hairspray. Please pin back bangs, as they create a shadow on the dancer's face. Be sure to slick back any wispsies too!

Bon Bons: Your hair should be in piggy braids with just a hair tie at the bottom. Ideally they will start behind the dancer's

ears. **Party Girls:** Your hair should be in ringlets. **Baby Dolls:** Your hair should be in ringlets or curls.

You will pick up anything Annie bought for you for costumes or that you are borrowing, at the theatre on Saturday. Please remember to bring anything that the costume list (on the bulletin board downstairs) shows as "you provide". At the end of the show, you will take anything you bought home with you. Please leave anything you borrowed in your bag with your class coordinator. Remember that Costume fees are due on December 5th.

This is a good place to remind everyone to not wear undergarments with your costume. Pre-Ballet II and up will of course have their nude leotard under their costume, but that should be it; panty lines under a costume are very tacky and unprofessional. If your dancer is unaccustomed to this (ideally, dancers do not normally wear undergarments to class), it would be a good idea to practice at home, and in class before the show. Tell them it is just like wearing a swimsuit.

There is the option to have professional pictures taken of your dancer(s) at the Elsinore. If you are interested in doing this, then please sign up at the studio.

A Couple Notes from Annie

We are so lucky to have our beautiful ballet studio... It is an amazing dance space, close to downtown, with a parking lot. I know not all of you know or remember, but we had to jump through many hoops to get into this space. We couldn't have done it without the support of both Grant and Highland Neighborhood Associations, who enthusiastically and unanimously stood behind our move. I bring this up because it has come to my attention that our direct neighbors have been having challenges with our parking habits. Specifically, I understand people have been stopping in front of, or even parking in front of driveways. I know everyone is in a rush, trying to get their child to ballet on time and safely, and then trying to get to wherever the next activity might be. It is **IMPERATIVE** that we remain conscientious of and respectful to our neighbors. Please, if the parking lot and street parking are both full, drive a little further down the road and walk your child in the front doors. There is a lot of street parking along Broadway. You can even park on Madison. Please be even more aware at all-cast rehearsals. We did post specific parking instructions on the bulletin board downstairs. We were given permission to use both Highland Elementary and the LDS overflow parking lot for our 2 large Saturday practices. I beg, don't make the neighbors regret their decision to allow us to use our beautiful dance space... and be thankful we didn't lose our street front parking to a bus stop last summer :).

Second, exciting news: Tim and I are expecting our 3rd baby late this spring! Thank you to everyone for your warm wishes. We are beyond thrilled!

What to Bring & What NOT to Bring

Performance weekends are exciting, but also long, and exhausting, especially for younger dancers. You can help your dancer greatly by being sure they get plenty of sleep, eat healthy meals before they come, and that they are drinking lots of water! Of course snacks brought to theatre are also a good way to keep up energy, but in order to keep costumes and our space as clean as possible, we have to be very picky about what is allowed. Here is a list of foods that are **excellent** to bring with you: Mozzarella sticks, dye less crackers, apple slices, carrots, pretzels, granola bars (without chocolate or anything that will melt), fruit snacks, almonds, water (The best of all to bring). Snacks **NOT** to bring: Chocolate, greasy or saucy foods (pizza, fried chicken, potato chips, peanut butter, jelly), juicy fruits or vegetables like oranges or tomatoes, anything with food coloring, soda juice or other colored

Performance Weekend Dates

We do our best to keep things running on time, but with 250 students, we sometimes get a little off track, so we would greatly appreciate your patience, especially at the rehearsals. Having said that, here is the schedule for the weekend, with call times and pick up times:

Friday December 11th, Elsinore Theatre, Spacing Call Times – Ballet IV & V – 3:30pm, Boys II, Contemporary II, and Contemporary III – 4:30pm, Ballet I, Ballet II, Ballet III, and Jazz I – 4:45pm, Pre-Ballet II – 6:00pm (Everyone just wear normal class attire)
Saturday December 12th, Elsinore Theatre, Dress Rehearsal Call Times & Pick Up Times – All dancers with full makeup, hair done, and in costume ready to start at 10:00am. Pre-Ballet I and Creative Movement will be released

drinks. We will be sure everyone gets a dinner/nap break, but be sure to bring plenty of snacks and water, as your dancer will probably be at the theatre for several hours before they are released.

Besides snacks, other items that would be good to bring are extra tights, extra hair supplies (hair pins in particular for attaching head pieces and hair spray to do touch ups), extra make up for touch ups, and activities. Examples of appropriate activities include books, etch a sketches, card games, cars, and dolls. Activities to leave at home include anything with glitter (this is a theatre policy), markers, and anything noisy. You will also probably want to leave anything valuable at home.

after the first run through, hopefully at 1:00pm. All others will be released after their second run, either 3:00pm or 4:00pm, depending on if they are in the first or second act.

Saturday, December 12th, Elsinore Theatre, Performance! – Call time for all dancers 6:00pm (7:00pm show). All dancers are in the final bows.
Sunday, December 13th, Elsinore Theatre, Performance! – Call time for all dancers is 1:30pm (2:30pm show). All dancers are in the final bows.

We will do our best to keep on track, but we can use your help in doing so! By arriving on time, and ready to go, you will help us keep this tight schedule. Thanks!

Calendar**December 5th, 2015**

Mandatory All Cast Rehearsal at ABA. 1:00 for Act I, and 3:15 for Act II.
There is regular class in the morning!

December 11th, 2015

Spacing Rehearsals at the Elsinore Theatre. (Creative Movement, Pre-Ballet I, & Boys I do not attend). **No Friday classes!**
 Ballet IV & Ballet V – 3:30pm
 Boys II, Contemporary II, & Contemporary III – 4:30pm
 Ballet I, Ballet II, Ballet III, and Jazz I – 4:45
 Pre-Ballet II – 6:00pm.

December 12th, 2015

Dress Rehearsal at The Elsinore Theatre. Start time 10:00am. **No Saturday classes.**

December 12th, 2015

The Children's Nutcracker. Dancer Call Time 6:00pm, Performance at 7:00pm

December 13th, 2015

The Children's Nutcracker. Dancer Call Time 1:30pm, performance at 2:30pm

December 21st-January 3rd, 2015-2016

Holiday Break! No classes!

CONTACT

Please feel free to contact us at any of the following:

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Store Hours:

Tuesday 4:30-5:30pm

Saturday 10:15-11:45am

By appointment

