



Dance Dialogue



Welcome Back!

It's the beginning of another great year here at ABA! We are so glad to have our families from last year back, and to say a big welcome to our new students! Please be sure to greet any new dancers and families you may see; let's show everyone why we love ABA!

If you have not already, please be sure to double check your ABA Profile. It is important that you make sure you are

actually signed up for the classes that you are wanting to take. It would also be great if you could check that your contact information is up to date. Please also be aware that if you are wanting to sign up for Automatic Payments, there is a form we need signed from you and returned to us. If you want this form, please email us at: americanballetacademy@gmail.com

Nutcracker & Parent Meetings

Of course with fall comes Nutcracker! **Please check the calendar on page two for important Nutcracker dates.**

As with past performances, we will be having our parent meetings and costume fittings for Ballet III and under, during your child's class time during the week of October 10-16. For Ballet II and III, the meeting will be during your child's second class of the week. Please plan on attending, since there may be some changes this year with there being a new director at the Elsinore!

We will be passing around the volunteer signup sheet soon, and coming around looking for volunteers again! We know it can get old being asked over and over to please sign up, and that it can feel we are rushing you. We hope everyone will remember that we just want to get the help we need to make the performance a great experience for all the dancers! And of course, thank you so much for volunteering!

Nutcracker is an exciting time & everyone has a role they would like to get. Unfortunately, that means you could find yourself with a disappointed dancer. Please do your best to be proud about whatever role they are given; they are all so much fun! It helps a lot when they see that you are excited for them; it is contagious! It can be especially hard with the more advanced dancers who have solos or small group dances. It's hard not to feel compared, or that we are valuing one dancer above another. Please keep in mind that with casting we take into account strengths, what we want each dancer to improve on, and what part will best showcase each and every person! So cheer up! You are all truly great dancers! ☺

Of course younger dancers can also be disappointed, especially if they have been the same part for many years. Please help them to keep in mind that we try our best to mix things up, but we can't always accommodate the wishes of everyone. And remember that the dances are different each year, even if your dancer is the same role again.

A Note from Annie About Nutcracker...

In case you were not aware, there is a new director at the Elsinore Theatre. As could be expected, there might be some changes with the change in leadership at the theatre. I don't know what those changes are as of yet — I have a meeting scheduled with the theatre in the very near future. I had hoped to meet before we had to write the September Newsletter, but it just wasn't possible. It is possible that these changes will have an impact on you. We have parent meetings coming up (the week of October 10-16). I know it is really easy to blow off these meetings, especially for families that have been at the studio for a while. Please, make sure you keep the meeting a priority and come so you are not left in the dark!



Dress Code and Back to Dance Sale

With the start of the new year, we like to write a little about the dress code for new students, and as a refresher for returning students. Girls should wear a solid colored leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet slippers. If you have black tights or shoes from past performances, it is acceptable to wear these to class. Ballet I-III are not allowed to wear skirts. They can wear tight fitting black shorts sometimes, but need to be comfortable in just a leotard and tights.

Girls Ballet I and up need to have hair pulled back in a proper ballet bun. This is both traditional and functional. If you need help with this, it's alright to ask another parent to help you!

We know many of you will come to the studio and find your dance attire is no longer fitting, or has been misplaced over the summer! Don't forget we have a small store that provides basic attire for your dance classes including shoes, tights and leos. Normal hours are Tuesday from 4:30-5:30 and Saturday from 10:15-11:45.

Eugene Ballet Nutcracker Auditions

ABA will once again be hosting the Eugene Ballet Nutcracker Auditions October 23. The performance is Dec 22 & 23. The auditions will be as follows:

ABA T-Shirt Design Contest!

We have had many requests for new ABA gear, so we are holding a design contest! Please turn in your designs at the studio, or you can email them to us. Please have your design in one color, and it does not need to be type set. Please nothing bigger than 10x14. Please label your design with your

Next week we will have some additional back-to-school hours as follows: Monday and Wednesday from 5:30-6:30; Tuesday and Thursday from 4:30-5:30; Saturday 10:15-11:45. This Saturday, the 10th, through next Saturday, the 17th, we will have our "Back to School Sale". We hope to see you there!

We'd also like to say a few words about ballet etiquette. These niceties are universal in the ballet world, and are good for dancers of all ages to know and practice. It is important for your dancer to be at class on time, in proper attire. Hands should be raised to ask or answer questions, and talking should be kept to an absolute minimum in class. Your dancer should always thank the teacher at the end of class. Please keep absences to a minimum, and be sure to let your teacher know when you have to miss. Dancers should never lean on walls or the barre. Please go over these rules with your dancer!

Waltz of the Flowers 1:00-2:00 (3 years pointe experience)
 Party Children - 2:00-3:30 (ages 11-15)
 Bon Bons - 3:30-4:30 (ages 9-11)
 Angels - 4:30-5:00 (ages 7-9)
 Baby Mice - 5:00-5:30 (ages 5-7)

name. The deadline to turn them in will be the end of September. First prize is a 30.00 aba store gift certificate, and second place is a 15.00 gift certificate to the aba store.



Calendar

- October 10th- 16th, 2016
Parent Meetings & Costume Fittings.
- October 23rd, 2016
Eugene Nutcracker Audition at ABA.
- October 31st, 2016
Halloween. No Classes
- November 19th, 2016
Mandatory All Cast Rehearsal at ABA.
- November 24th, 2016
No class today. Happy Thanksgiving!
- December 3rd, 2016
Mandatory All Cast Rehearsal at ABA.
- December 9th, 2016
Spacing Rehearsals after school Pre-Ballet II & up only.
- December 10th, 2016
Nutcracker Dress Rehearsal.
- December 10th & 11th, 2016
The Children's Nutcracker!
- December 19th, 2016-January 1st, 2017
Holiday Break!

CONTACT

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

Phone & Email: (503) 364-4738
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Store Hours:
 Tuesday 4:30-5:30pm
 Saturday 10:15-11:45am
 By appointment