



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.

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, Christmas Dolls, and modern classes), 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. **Modern Dancers:**

A note on the Floor

We just wanted to take a moment here to interject, and apologize for the state of the floor in the basement. We are in the process

Hair in a style of your choosing, as long as it is pulled back from your face.

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 3rd.

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. Pictures will occur Saturday, Dec. 10th, 3:45-5:45pm.

of figuring out the problem and fixing it, and we really appreciate your patience, and understanding!

Changes for Nutcracker

There are a couple of important differences in the way we are having pick up and drop off of dancers happen at the theatre this year.

1. For the Dress Rehearsal and the shows, dads will not be able to take their dancers to, or pick them up from, the Pre-II-Ballet III changing room (which is the one by the bathroom), to be checked in with their class coordinators. This does not apply to Creative-Pre-Ballet I dancers, as their room is the one under the stage. We will be having a table set up either upstairs, or at the bottom of the stairs, and this is where dads of Pre-II-Ballet III should take their dancers to be checked in. We will have two "check in" volunteers who will take them to and from their coordinators.

Having said that, we need volunteers to help with this! Since this is a new job, we do not have it listed on the volunteer sheet. We need two volunteers per show and two for the dress. You will not need to miss the show to do this, since it is before and after the show. Please email the office to help!

2. As stated in the previous newsletter, all parents must go back out to the line after they drop off their dancers for the show. Otherwise it is too confusing for the theatre to keep track of tickets. To make it easier, we made 15 minute earlier call times.

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 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.

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 9th, Elsinore Theatre, Spacing Call Times:** 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 (Everyone just wear normal class attire).

Saturday December 10th, 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

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 10th, Elsinore Theatre, Performance! – Call time for all dancers 5:45pm (7:00pm show). All dancers are in the final bows.

Sunday, December 11th, Elsinore Theatre, Performance! – Call time for all dancers is 1:15pm (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 3rd, 2016

Mandatory All Cast Rehearsal at ABA.
Act I 12:15pm; Act II 2:30pm

December 9th, 2016

Spacing Rehearsals after school Pre-Ballet II & up only:

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.

At The Elsinore Theatre.

December 10th, 2016

Nutcracker Dress Rehearsal. 10AM.

At The Elsinore Theatre.

December 10th 2016

The Children's Nutcracker! 7pm.

At The Elsinore Theatre.

December 11th, 2016

The Children's Nutcracker! 2:30pm.

At the Elsinore Theatre.

December 19th, 2016-January 1st, 2017

Holiday Break!

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