

GRACE ACADEMY OF DANCE AND PERFORMING ARTS
(905) 338 – 0210
www.graceacademy.ca

FINAL NEWSLETTER/PRE-REGISTRATION

MAY 7th 2018

AS WE MOVE CLOSER TO SHOW WEEK WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE THE DANCERS SHOWCASE ALL THAT THEY HAVE LEARNED! WE KNOW THAT ALL PARENTS WILL BE VERY PROUD!

If you have not yet volunteered – PLEASE DO! We are still in need of volunteers in many areas. If you have volunteered, you will receive an email confirming the dates and assigned roles in the coming weeks. Thank you in advance for helping to make the show a success!

SHOW REMINDERS

Please remember to refer to your Performance Handbooks and Show Letter #4 for all important details for “show week”, including rehearsal times. These can both be found online and on the studio bulletin board. If you would like a 2nd copy, please ask one of the teachers.

SHOW PHOTOGRAPHY

Video cameras and photography are NOT permitted in the theatre.

Anne-Marie May of Welcome Aboard Photography and Lesley Hugill will be photographing your dancers in action on stage at the dress rehearsal. Photos will be available for purchase from a specially created website, with a password. This will not be given to anyone other than Grace Academy families. Photos will be kept as archival record for the school and are occasionally used for advertising. If you did not sign a waiver of consent when registering, we will not use your child’s photo in any way.

Website details are as follows:

www.portraitsbywelcomeaboard.photostockplus.com

PLEASE ASK MISS KNAPP FOR THE PASSWORD.

Photos can be paid for easily online, as you view them. If you have any questions about photos from past performances, email Anne-Marie at info@portraitsbywelcomeaboard.com . Photography from past events can be also be viewed on this website.

LEMONADE PARTY- SATURDAY, JUNE 9th 2018

Each year we are happy to invite all Grace Academy families to join us at the studio for lemonade and cookies. This year our party will be held on Saturday, June 9TH from 11am – 1pm. Drop by anytime to see a preview showing of our 'MOVIES IN MOTION' DVD. Enjoy cookies and lemonade, talk with friends and PRE-REGISTER! If possible, please let Miss Knapp know if you are planning to attend or if you would like to contribute by sending in cookies. (Because it is such a busy time – please call 905 338 – 0210 or email graceacademy@sympatico.ca)

BORROWED ITEMS

Dancers who have borrowed any costume pieces from the Academy should please leave these at the theatre at the end of the Saturday evening performance. Items can be left on the table in the hallway across from the dressing rooms (eg. senior volunteer costumes)

COSTUMES – THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful for the work of Valeri and Natasha from ESTA, Erica Gilby and Carolyn Den Elzen. These talented seamstresses have worked extremely hard to assist Miss Knapp with the design and construction of each costume. Thank you also to INSTEP ACTIVEWEAR for their assistance with all bodysuits worn in the show! We are looking forwards to seeing everything up on stage!

THE SPIRIT MOVES CHRISTIAN DANCE COMPANY

The Spirit Moves will be entering its 19th season this coming September!! Using contemporary Christian worship music, dancers learn a large repertoire of choreography throughout the year. Practices are held every other Friday (with some exceptions) and dancers take part in worship services at approximately 4 churches during the year. We also present our own spring concert to fundraise for various local charities, and take part in Grace Academy's year end production. It is a fabulous opportunity for your dancer to learn about giving back to others and to share their talents in a way that brings joy to those around them. If your interested in learning more, please speak to Miss Knapp.

PURE GRACE -PERFORMING COMPANY

Our performing company, Pure Grace, had another incredibly successful season this year! Dancers grew both technically and artistically and had the opportunity to perform in a variety of venues in and around our community.

Pure Grace is a non-competitive performance company. This is a wonderful way for dancers to enhance their performance skills, while increasing their technique and knowledge of a variety of dance styles!

Pure Grace is offered to the **serious dancer, who is committed to challenging themselves with new work, enhancing their technique, and performing at a high standard.** While this is a non-auditioned group, dancers must attend a minimum of 2 ballet classes and 1 modern class per week in order to participate. The group is open to dancers enrolled in grade 2 ballet and above, and will be sub-divided according to dance grade level.

There will be an opportunity to learn choreography at a fast pace, in a variety of styles. Guest choreographers will join with our regular teaching staff. Dancers will also have the chance to learn short solo or small group pieces. Performance opportunities beyond our year end performance will be offered.

Rehearsals will take place during the week (one hour per week-see attached timetable). All rehearsals will be mandatory. Additional practice time and solo/ small group work will be scheduled on various Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, throughout the year.

Space will be limited. If your dancer is interested, please speak to Miss Knapp to receive further details!

We hope that many of our dancers will consider this to be an incredible opportunity for growth - we are so proud of what our dancers have accomplished this past year and see an enormous change in them both technically and in performance standard.

In the 2018-2019, Pure Grace will also have the opportunity to participate in our upcoming musical as a part of their performance schedule! (See details on the musical later in this newsletter)

EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT - MUSICAL 2019!! JAMES AND GIANT PEACH !!

Grace Academy of Dance and Performing Arts and Spurrell Singing Studio are embarking on an exciting adventure for 2018-2019! The dedicated teachers of both studios are always looking for opportunities to expand their students' performance skills and are thrilled to have the opportunity to work together to produce a high caliber product that will be entertaining to all audiences. Our last musical in 2015 was a huge success and we can't wait to get started on this next adventure!

We are excited to announce that, on March 1st, 2nd and 3rd 2019, we will be presenting "**JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH -THE MUSICAL**" at the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts.

We are limiting this opportunity to the students of Spurrell Singing Studio and Grace Academy to ensure quality in both performance and most importantly, kindness towards others. The teachers of both programs want to deepen the bonds between student and teacher, as well as, between the students themselves. Working together in this type of environment is extremely rewarding for all the people involved.

As our gift to your children, the teachers of Spurrell Singing Studio and Grace Academy will be volunteering their time and rehearsal space to make this event happen. However, musicals are expensive to produce so we will need a financial commitment from each participant in order to make this opportunity happen. If your dancer is enrolled in the following levels or above - grade 1 ballet 2nd year, Grade 3 Modern, Grade 2 tap - and is interested in being a part of this fabulous opportunity, please ask one of the teachers for a more detailed information package. Costs and commitment requirements are clearly outlined in the package. **GRACE ACADEMY DANCERS MUST BE ENROLLED IN A MINIMUM OF 2 CLASSES WEEKLY IN ORDER TO BE INVOLVED. OUR EXPECTATION IS THAT JOINING THIS MUSICAL EXPERIENCE WILL ENHANCE THE TRAINING OF OUR DEDICATED STUDENTS, BUT IT SHOULD NOT TAKE THE PLACE OF ANY OF THE REGULAR WEEKLY DANCE/MUSICAL THEATRE CLASSES.** We do strongly recommend that your dancer consider signing up for our regular musical theatre program if they wish to participate (in order to help build both their vocal and acting skills) –but it is not mandatory. Our annual year end performance will, of course, also take place next season 😊

Auditions will be held for the lead acting, singing and dancing parts in early September, but ALL students who meet the level/cost/commitment requirement are welcome to participate in the chorus without auditioning.

DANCERS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN THE PURE GRACE PERFORMING COMPANY WILL PERFORM ONE DANCE PIECE IN THIS SHOW. PURE GRACE MEMBERS WHO WISH TO BE A PART OF THE CHORUS OR AUDITION FOR ADDITIONAL ROLES MAY ALSO DO SO.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO ASSEMBLING AND WORKING WITH A FABULOUS CAST!
REMEMBER TO ASK US FOR AN INFORMATION PACKAGE!

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

We are always grateful for the help of our older students in the little ones' classes. Any students (age 12 and up) who would be interested in assisting with the junior classes next year are asked to speak to Miss Knapp - please check the timetable and let us know when you might be available. A volunteer schedule will be put together at the end of the summer, once registration is complete.

UNIFORMS

Please note that some styles and colours of bodysuits and skirts are being discontinued by the supplier. Because of this, there will be a few changes to our uniform list for the fall. Details will be made available to you in July.

PRE-REGISTRATION

We continue to be extremely proud of our incredible students and are so happy to have all of you in our Grace Academy family! We hope that you will all plan to join us in our 2018-2019 season! At Grace Academy, we are proud to offer the finest in dance and theatrical training, where students are given opportunity to learn in an environment of artistic and technical excellence. As one of Oakville's only non-competitive studios, we are proud to offer an environment that is caring, and where dancers learn to be encouraging, supportive and respectful of each other. Age appropriate syllabus work, music and costuming is chosen with great care so that parents can always be assured of the very best for their child!

AS ALWAYS, WE ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDING THAT ALL STUDENTS WHO PLAN TO RETURN SECURE THEIR SPOT BY PRE-REGISTERING.

This year we will hold spots for all current students until **SATURDAY, JUNE 16TH** .

All class preference (ie day/time choice) will be on a **first come, first served basis**. **DO NOT DELAY REGISTERING IF YOU WANT A SPOT IN THE CLASS OF YOUR CHOICE!** We will only begin to officially accept registration on May 14th to ensure that all of our students have had time to receive this newsletter.

After June 16TH registration information will be accepted by families who have requested to be on our mailing list from the general public.

Once this deadline has arrived we can no longer guarantee you a place.
PLEASE PRE-REGISTER SO THAT YOU DO NOT MISS OUT! WE ENJOY HAVING ALL OF YOU IN THE SCHOOL VERY MUCH 😊

Pre-registration details are attached

SUMMER CAMP

There are still places available in both of our summer camp weeks. Come out and enjoy a fun-filled week incorporating dance, musical theatre and crafts! Programs are available for ages 4 and up. If you would like more information please speak to Miss Knapp.

A REMINDER TO THOSE REGISTERED FOR THE CAMP – THE BALANCE OF FEES IS DUE JUNE 1ST.

LOST AND FOUND

Please check the change room for any clothing items that you may have misplaced! All items that have not been claimed by the last day of term will be given to charity.

MUSICAL THEATRE PROGRAM

We are extremely fortunate to have Natalie Spurrell as our vocal instructor for our musical theatre program (Bio can be found on our website). Natalie's high level of expertise ensures that your child will receive the best possible vocal instruction, while learning all aspects of musical theatre! You will find that other schools offer lip sync as their musical theatre instruction, or often focus on belting out songs with little technique and damaging young voices. We are proud to offer a real triple threat program that teaches excellent technique and performance!!

This program is open to dancers age 7 and above. Students must be taking one form of dance to attend this class, as we have found that dance training is extremely important in assisting the musical theatre students to learn their performance pieces.

FALL SCHEDULE/PRE-REGISTRATION

Our 2018-2019 promises to be filled with more wonderful days of dance! We are excited to include a musical performance into our year , along with our performing companies Pure Grace and The Spirit Moves!!

A proposed timetable for fall classes is now available to current families (subject to change based on registration). The correct class for your dancer is marked on the timetable. If you would like to add an additional subject please speak to Miss Knapp for the correct level.

Minimum age requirements:

Ballet – 3 years by September 1st 2018

Tap– 7 years by September 1st 2018 OR 3 years of dance at Grace Academy – at Miss Knapp's discretion

Musical Theatre – 7 years by September 1st 2018

All students must be taking one form of dance. Dancers will be divided based on age and dance level

Modern jazz – 6 years by January 31ST 2019 OR 2 years of ballet at Grace Academy

ALL STUDENTS wishing to take hip hop MUST also be attending the corresponding modern class

Intermediate foundation ballet 1st year students must attend 2 classes of ballet per week in order to be considered for pointe work.

Intermediate foundation ballet 2nd year students and above MUST be attending 2 regular ballet classes per week to work on pointe

We recommend that students in grade 1 ballet 2nd year and above attend 2 classes per week in order to progress through the level in 1 year (please discuss this with Miss Knapp if you have questions). Students who do not attend twice a week will not necessarily be ready to move ahead to the next grade level. We HIGHLY RECOMMEND ATTENDANCE IN 2 CLASSES A WEEK IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE A GOOD STANDARD

Musical theatre students must be taking at least one form of dance

Those interested in The Spirit Moves Christian Dance Company Pure Grace Performing Company or James and the Giant Peach should speak to Miss Knapp

ACTING CLASS - This year, it is our hope that students who have an interest in acting lessons will participate in some way in our exciting musical opportunity, James and Giant Peach. Students who are interested in a class in addition to this should speak to Miss Knapp.

WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND PRE-REGISTRATION IN ALL PROGRAMS IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE A SPOT IN THE CLASS OF YOUR CHOICE. YOU WILL SEE THAT OUR TIMETABLE IS VERY FULL TO ACCOMMODATE OUR CURRENT STUDENTS. DO NOT MISS OUT!

If you would like to pre-register for the fall to ensure a place in the class of your choice, you may do so by sending in the attached form along with a **\$75 deposit for each dancer. Forms may be returned to the Academy at 785 Pacific Road, Oakville ON L6L 6M3. They may also be handed in during final classes, or left with security at the theatre.**

Your deposit will be applied to your 1st term fees and is non-refundable. **If you decide to drop a course that you have pre-registered for, your \$75 deposit will cover this class and will not be deducted from your 1st term fees for other lessons.**

Once you have sent in your pre-registration, you will receive an email to inform you of fees owing and due dates. POST DATED CHEQUES SHOULD BE SENT INTO US UPON RECEIVING THIS INFORMATION.

Fall information packages will be sent out in July BY EMAIL. Do not hesitate to contact the Academy with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Spots will open to the public on SUNDAY JUNE 17TH.

While we guarantee a place for all current students in the dance subject they are currently studying (until June 16th) , choice of day and time are not guaranteed.

**** ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE PRINTED FROM OUR WEBSITE www.graceacademy.ca (please fill out one form per dancer)

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER 😊!