



DreamCatcher's Dance Company provides students with an exciting performance experience through its recital. The annual staple of the dance school, the recital, conjures images of childhood and Americana for many. It continues to be a rite of passage for thousands of youngsters, a chance to shine in front of family and friends, and an event they anticipate with nervous excitement.

The recital offers our students a professionally directed performance that allows them to present a year's worth of hard work, dedication, and progress to their families and friends. A big part of the dance training process includes learning through performance. The experience helps build self-esteem, self-assurance, and contributes to a sense of confidence.

Although performance opportunities can help prepare some students for a possible career in dance, they also contribute to children's success in non-dance activities. That onstage experience can result in better in-school presentations, improved social skills, and strong interview skills for future college or job opportunities. The rehearsal process is a tremendous learning experience as well. It helps the children develop retention skills and by working with their classmates on a group performance, they learn the positive aspects of working as a team to create the best end result.

Dedication to recital commitments is the responsibility of both students and their parents. We've created this handbook to clarify what we expect from you in terms of commitments and responsibilities to the annual recital, the studio, and the other students and parents.

### **Home Study**

To ensure the students feel confident about their performance, we ask parents and guardians to encourage them to rehearse their recital choreography on a regular basis. You may video tape your child's dances during class; we've found the use of videos to be a very effective tool for practicing at home in preparation for the recital.

### **Costume Care**

We recommend that your child's name be placed on all costumes, shoes, accessories, and tights. Place costumes in a garment bag with your child's name on the outside. Pack accessories in a clear plastic bag with your child's name on the bag and on each item. Hats should be stored in a hatbox or similar container to prevent damage. Press or steam (depending on fabrics) all costumes prior to the dress rehearsal and the performance. We have also found Downy wrinkle release to be very effective when used sparingly. Please do not wash costumes in your washing machine; dry clean them only (after the recital if you do desire).

## **Costume Racks**

Clothing racks with wheels can be purchased and brought to the recital; if your child has several costumes, a rack is a smart investment. It keeps the costumes organized, prevents wrinkles, and provides some privacy during costume changes. Hang costumes on the rack in the order they will be needed in the show. There are no costume racks provided by the facility or the studio, so please plan accordingly.

## **Pre-Planning**

The recital is not a one-day activity. Gather all costumes, accessories, shoes and makeup several days in advance so you'll know if something is missing or isn't right. Make a checklist of your child's routines – listing their costume, tights, shoes, and any accessories, and refer to it to make sure you have all of your supplies before going to the recital. Bring extra hair gel, bobby pins, hair bands, and hairspray.

### **Other handy items include:**

Baby wipes

Shout wipes or tide pen

Baby powder (for itchy costumes)

Safety pins

Clear nail polish (to repair minor holes/runs in tights when there is not time to change them)

Lotion

Games, books, and quiet activities to entertain your child(ren) in the dressing areas

A first aid kit (including your pain reliever of choice)

We also suggest bringing snacks and drinks for your child(ren) – as that is certainly much easier than running to a convenience store or restaurant during rehearsals. Prague does have several restaurants and convenience stores near the auditorium as well as a grocery store. Ken's pizza is just across the street and has a Mazzi's style menu that includes pizza, sandwiches, salads, and pasta. Save their number in your phone for handy reference – 405-567-4944. There is also a nearby Sonic Drive-In and The Fillin' Station (405-567-2525).

## **Dress Rehearsal**

The dress rehearsal allows the students to become familiar with the auditorium surroundings and feel comfortable with their performance, costume(s), and being onstage. Lighting, music cues, set changes, and all other logistics for an organized and professional performance are rehearsed so that the students make the best impression possible.

Participation in the dress rehearsal is mandatory; a rehearsal schedule has been included with this packet to allow you time to schedule for the rehearsals. We run an organized and timely dress rehearsal; your help with the process will guarantee a the best possible production. Please arrive at least 45 minutes prior to curtain. Students may arrive in their first performance costume. **ALL DANCERS MUST STAY BACKSTAGE OR IN THEIR DESIGNATED DRESSING AREA.** No dancers are to be in the auditorium during the show.

## **Finale**

All students are required to participate in the finale, which will be rehearsed during the last week of classes. A run-through of the finale will take place at the dress rehearsal. All students will wear recital tee with black bottoms (hip hop pants, dance pants, leggings, or shorts are all acceptable bottoms).

## **Dressing Room Etiquette**

Students must respect other students' space and property in the dressing rooms. The students will spend more time in the dressing rooms than onstage, so please do your best to keep them organized and clean. Bring plenty of calm/quiet activities to keep your child(ren) entertained and occupied while in the dressing area (movies, coloring books, puzzles, video games).

## **Auditorium Rules**

NO eating, drinking, or smoking is allowed in the auditorium. Dancers will remain in the dressing rooms with class moms during dress rehearsal and the recital when they are not on stage. Our dancers love to hear your cheers and applause, please feel free to let loose and let the dancers know how much you are enjoying the show! We ask only that you remember this is a family show. A "WOOOO-HOOOOOO!" is perfectly appropriate (and expected) at our shows.

## **Backstage**

For the protection and security of our dancers and their property, family members and friends are not allowed backstage or in the dressing rooms during rehearsals, the recital, or after the show. There is a lot of backstage activity in a limited space and dressing rooms are a private area. Please remind your family and guests to be respectful of these areas. Those who wish to greet a performer after the show or present a gift should do so in the lobby areas.

## **Miscellaneous Recital Information**

Many parents, grandparents, and friends send recital gifts – flowers, gift baskets, balloons, etc. – on the night of the recital; we will have tables set up for these items. Remember that food items will not be allowed in the dressing rooms or backstage.

## **Recital Volunteers**

We really need your help to make this recital extra special for all of the dancers! We need volunteers to help with various aspects of the recital from decorations to stagehands so please sign up to help make this event very special for your dancers; a volunteer form is included with this packet. We welcome all volunteers, so please make copies if you need more than one, or pick up additional forms at the studio. There will be an orientation for all volunteers, and all must abide by the policies set forth by DreamCatcher's.

**Class Moms:** Class mothers are needed for each class to supervise the dancers. Class moms must assure that each child in her care is safe and accounted for. They are responsible for making sure that each child is in the proper costume, has the proper accessories and shoes, and is backstage at the appropriate time. They are also responsible for seeing that all children return to their appointed dressing room/area after performing. During the class' performance, room mothers leave the students backstage with the backstage managers and watch the dance from the auditorium.

### **Recital Admission**

Admission to our recitals is free, so please encourage guests to attend in support of your dancer(s). This is one of the reasons we sell ads instead of tickets – so you can bring as many “fans” as you like!

**PLEASE NOTE: You may video record and take flash photos during the dress rehearsal; however, no video recording or flash photography is allowed during the recital.** A professional video production company has been contracted to record the recital and you will have the opportunity to purchase a complete recital video during the week of rehearsals. It is a violation of our contract with the video production company to allow others to video record the recital. The security personnel will ask you to take any cameras back to your car.

# VOLUNTEER FORM

DreamCatcher's Dance Company relies on the assistance of many dedicated volunteers to provide a high-quality performance experience for your child(ren). All of our dancers, including your child(ren), are direct beneficiaries of this volunteer effort, so we sincerely hope you will become an enthusiastic member of our volunteer staff.

Most volunteer tasks require limited commitment at a specified time during the dress rehearsal and/or recital. There are many projects available for men as well as women. We encourage every family to become involved and welcome any contribution you are willing to make!

Please check any of the specific project listed below that you are interested in. Filling out this form does not obligate you to volunteer in any capacity. **Return this form to the studio at your earliest convenience.** If you have any questions, just call the studio. Thank you so much for your help!

\_\_\_ Class Mom (during recital): Ensure that dancers are safe and accounted for when not onstage. Check for proper attire and escort children to and from the stage for their performances.

\_\_\_ Security (during recital): Ensure that only authorized personnel/volunteers are backstage and in the dressing rooms. Enforce the video/photography rules to keep the studio in compliance with our recording and production contract. Enforce the auditorium-specific rules.

\_\_\_ Usher/General Assistance (during recital): Provide assistance to those who need special accommodations, distribute programs, other miscellaneous projects.

\_\_\_ Props/Set Design (before recital): Build and paint or assist with building and painting.

\_\_\_ Decorating (before recital):

\_\_\_ Props/Set-up (during recital): Set up props and sets.

\_\_\_ Clean-up Crew (after recital): Sweep, vacuum, remove decorations, etc.

\_\_\_ Other, please specify what you have in mind:

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Shawnee Recital     Chandler Recital     Both

**THANK YOU!**

# ADDITIONAL RECITAL SHIRT (for you, MOM!) ORDER FORM

Place your order with payment by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Dancer: \_\_\_\_\_

Studio:  Chandler  Shawnee

Circle Size and clip or staple this order form to payment and drop in payment box at studio.

	Y=YOUTH			A=ADULT					
YS	YM	YL		AS	AM	AL	AXL	A2X	A3x
These sizes \$12 each								\$14ea	\$16ea

These shirts will have the recital design "When I Grow Up..." on the front and all dancers' names on the back

## **DREAMCATCHER'S DANCE CO. - 2010 RECITAL REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

Our spring recital and all rehearsals listed here will be at the Prague Schools' Auditorium. We have chosen this facility because it can accommodate all of our dancers and their fans and it is a nice facility we are comfortable working within. It is just an easy 30 minutes from our Shawnee studio. From Shawnee, travel North on Harrison/Highway 18 to the intersection with Highway 62 in Meeker (it's a stop sign). Turn East (that's right) and travel approximately 12 miles to Prague. The auditorium is on the North side of Highway 62 on the West edge of Prague, it is directly across from Ken's Pizza.

### **TUESDAY, MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> – INDIVIDUAL CLASS TIME ON STAGE**

**Rehearsal Time: Class Description – look for your regular class time here:**

4:00 – 5:00 Thursday 12:15pm Combo Class

Monday 7:30pm Ballet; Monday 8:00pm Jazz

5:00 – 5:45 Clogging: Mon. 4pm class, Mon 4:30pm

5:45 – 6:30 Petite & Junior Teams

6:30 – 7:30 Senior Team, Mini Trio, Prep Team, Senior Trio & Small Group

7:30 – 8:00 Full Team – Masquerade Madness

8:00 – 9:00 Ballet: petite team, junior team, senior team & Senior Tap

### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup> – INDIVIDUAL CLASS TIME ON STAGE**

**Rehearsal Time: Class Description – look for your regular class time here:**

4:00 – 5:00 Thursday 5:00 Hip Hop, 5:30 Ballet & 6:00 Tap Classes

5:00 – 5:30 Monday 5:30 & Tuesday 3:45 Tumbling Classes

5:30 – 6:00 Monday 4:45 & Tuesday 4:15 Tumbling Classes

6:00 – 6:45 Monday 6:00 Ballet, Monday 6:30 Tap,

6:45 – 7:15 Tuesday 5:30 Cheer/Pom, Tuesday 6:00 Hip Hop

7:15 – 8:15 Monday 7:00 Hip Hop, Monday 5:00 Ballet, Monday 5:30 Jazz

### **THURSDAY, MAY 27<sup>th</sup> – RECITAL RUN-THROUGH – ALL DANCERS!**

We start with the recital finale (all dancers) and run through the recital, in order; when your dancer is finished with their stage time, you can leave. OR...you can stay and help us with props, set pieces, and other fun recital activities if you can spare the time and talent, please, please, please... don't make me beg... PLEASE volunteer!

4:00 - ??? *My best guess is 7:30, but remember you can leave when your dances are finished*

### **FRIDAY, MAY 28<sup>TH</sup> – RECITAL DRESS REHEARSAL – ALL DANCERS!**

We start this early so we don't keep your dancers up late 3 nights in a row. Please make arrangements with your work schedule or engage the help of a friend, babysitter, or relative to have your dancer ready to dance at 2:00pm. ***Please read our notes about the Dress Rehearsal in your handbook.***

2:00 - ??? *My best guess is 5:45, but plan for longer, all dancers need to stay until the end for finale and final comments and instructions.*

### **SATURDAY, MAY 29<sup>TH</sup> – RECITAL PERFORMANCE (YAY!) – ALL DANCERS!**

All dancers should be seated on-stage, by class, wearing their first costume, BEFORE

6:00pm for studio awards (behind the curtain). Curtain goes up on dancing right around 6:30pm. This is going to be lots of fun! It should be about the length of a movie – 2.5 hours, but we can give you a better idea on Thursday.