

Dear Parents/Dancer:

As we begin the 2008-2009 dance season, we will be celebrating our 37th year of Dance. We are excited you have chosen us for your dance experience. Please note that this packet contains vital information for the entire year! On occasion, you will receive informational letters regarding up-coming activities but for the most part you should refer to this packet for information. A dance year calendar is provided for you. Please take time to highlight important dates. Please save for future reference.

Our studio offers a continuing dance program from basic pre-school through the advanced student. **Classes are not designed strictly on an age level, but also by ability, maturity and class participation.** Students develop at different rates; therefore in order for us to maintain the proper level of difficulty, along with proper technique, classes may change from year to year.

Please understand that it may take us a few weeks, or months, to properly place all children. We continue to move students through December. We are using our expertise in dance and dance education with children to properly place your child.

At our studio we strive to make dance FUN, but also educational. Our goal is to make dance an enjoyable part of your child's life and yours. Time studying dance is never lost!

Please read carefully, sign, and return the cover page to the Studio! If you have any questions. Please do not hesitate to call us. We greatly appreciate your support and business.

Happy Dancing!
Becky & Amanda

FYI from Miss Becky: Please remember that I am hearing impaired. When speaking to me, make sure you look directly at me. Sometimes I may not hear you and you will think I am ignoring you. I do not want to give you this impression. Depending on the number of people around the situation, you may need to speak loudly to me. I am sorry for this inconvenience.

Studio Location: 4900 E. University
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

STUDIO PHONE: 265-2711
BECKY'S HOME PHONE: 262-5418 **CELL PHONE:** 710-4715
AMANDA'S HOME PHONE: 967-2657 **CELL PHONE:** 710-4719
WEB SITE: www.beckysdance.com
EMAIL: **Becky:** bamissdance@aol.com
Amanda: abmissdance@msn.com

Teaching Staff

Becky Nalevanko, Director **Amanda Nalevanko, Co-Director**

Instructors: Kim Wallace Traci Shipley
Melissa Grantham Melissa Dennis
Breanna Holland Dory Kyrias
Christine Wilson

Ballet Mistress: *Gi Gi Oerter*
Hip Hop Instructors: Stephanie Miles
Pom Pon Instructors: Sally Catron, Jill Northway

Secretary/Receptionist:
Deb Forest

Class Helpers : Many older students assist our staff in the care and instruction of all dancers. These dedicated dancers perform many tasks to insure that the Instructor can devote their time to direct instruction. Helper duties may include: bathroom assistance, getting tissues, assisting with mats, lining up children, helping with shoes, answering phones, pulling hair back, and providing encouragement.

Dance Attire/Dress Code

Dancers must be appropriately attired in dancewear, tights, and proper shoes by October 1st. Dancers should have some type of dance bag to transport and help keep track of shoes. Names on shoes and bags. No excessive jewelry.

Pre-School I

Dancewear of any style or kind. Socks are good when its warm and tights in colder weather. White tap shoes and pink ballets. Bedroom/Isotoner Slippers are not ballet shoes. Tap shoes need white elastic that can be obtained from our office. Hair should be pulled back. No large ornaments in hair (hard to do rolls during tumbling class).

Pre-School II, Kindergarten and Regular Dance Classes: Tap, Ballet & Jazz

Dancewear of any kind or style is acceptable. Tights are optional. Suntan tap shoes. There is to be elastic in the student tap shoes that can be obtained from our office, no ribbons or ties. Some classes wear Bloch S0338 tap shoes, check with office. Jazz classes wear tan jazz shoes.

Ballet Technique/Pre-Pointe-Pointe Classes

Solid black leotard and pink tights. Pink ballet shoes or European pink pointe shoes. Dancers will be notified by mail when they are ready for pointe shoes. Hair pulled back. No skirts, shorts, sweats or tee shirts.

Boys: Tee-shirts, athletic shorts and black ballet shoes.

Tumbling Classes

Dancewear of any kind or style. Barefoot or jazz shoes.

Hip Hop * Pom Pon Classes

Comfortable style clothing is appropriate. Clothing that is moveable in. Shoes: Hip Hop shoes. Shoes that are worn outside are not allowed on our dance floors. Pom Pon students will be purchasing pom pons.

General Class Procedure

Drop students off at the studio at their class time. The studio is closed to observers, but we have "Watch Weeks" on designated dates (see calendar). Children may leave their wraps in the waiting room or bring them into the dance room. Dancers are to wear appropriate shoes into class and bring their dance bags with them. We will change shoes in the dance room. The studio is not responsible for lost or stolen items. We encourage children to watch for their rides from inside of the building, NOT outside. Young children whose parents are not available at the closing of class will stay in the dance room or with the Receptionist until you arrive. A parent will need to come into the studio and retrieve their children. Parents, please inform the older girls to stay inside of the building for their safety. **Dancers should visit the restroom prior to class. No street shoes on the dance floors. NO GUM allowed in the studio. NO CELL PHONES.**

Tuition

All monthly fees are due by the first of the month. There is a grace period of 10 days. Fees paid after the 10th are subject to a \$10 late fee and a \$35 charge for returned checks. Fees are the same no matter if there are 3, 4 or 5 lessons in a month. Tuitions are due for the months of September thru June. Rehearsals are considered a lesson. No deductions are given for missed lessons and there are NO REFUNDS. Many of the classes are duplicated and can be made-up at an alternate time. If a Receptionist is not available, please give the payment to your Instructor or place in the drop box. Any account payment not received by the 11th will be sent a statement. Accounts with outstanding balances will be charged a monthly interest rate.

Money Drop Box

A mail slot is located next to the office door across from the bathroom for payments.

Waiting Room/Class Viewing

Parents are welcome to stay in our waiting rooms while children are attending classes. If other children need to accompany you, please keep them quiet and closely supervised. Please keep the waiting room clean. Dancers are to pick up after themselves. Parent's Watch Weeks are stated in the calendar. Reminders of these dates will be re-printed in the monthly newsletters. During watch weeks, you are allowed to video and take pictures through the windows. The Parking lot is more congested at this time so you may want to arrive a little earlier on these days. **The studio is not responsible for children who cross the street to visit Casey's.**

Cancellations

Weather

IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, we will post on our web site (www.beckysdance.com) any cancellations and we also post with KCCI TV. It will also be stated on the answering machine at the studio. If needed, call Becky 262-5418 or the Dance Studio 265-2711.

Teacher

Classes cancelled by the Instructor will be taught at a later date by a qualified instructor.

Students

Classes missed by the student due to illness or personal reasons may take a make-up class at an alternate time. When your child does attend a make-up class, please inform the instructor of your child's name and his/her regular class time.

Civic Center Performance

The conclusion of our 2008-2009 dance year will be our 37th recital held at the Des Moines Civic Center. Recital Week is set for June 23rd thru 27th, 2009. Taking great pride in the progress of our students, we set out to achieve the total experience and fulfillment of dance by presenting our students in an exciting and professional production. This year's work of discipline, determination and dedication rises to an exciting level as students feel the thrill of performing on the Big Stage. Not **only** does a fine recital feature your child's abilities, it builds self-esteem and fosters an appreciation of the arts. All classes participate in the Recital. Technique classes are non-performing classes. All children are invited to participate in the Recital, but it is not mandatory.

During RECITAL WEEK, All classes will rehearse at specific scheduled time. Older classes and competition groups may rehearse both days. Rehearsals are required!

General Performance

Pre-school I, II, & Kindergarten	1 Performance
Intermediate & Up	1 Performance
Tumbling classes	1 Performance
Advanced Tumbling classes	1-2 Performances
Hip Hop classes	1-2 Performances
Pom Pon classes	1-2 performances
Pointe classes	1-2 Performances
Jr.-Sr. classes	2 Performances
Competition Routines	1-2 Performances
Senior Competition Solo's	1-2 Performances (determined by #)

Recital Handbook

Later in the year, you will receive an Informational Packet on the Recital/Civic Performance.

Civic Center Performance Fee

Pre-School I & II	\$75
Kindergarten and Up	\$85
Juniors, Seniors & Competition Team	\$105

FAMILY DISCOUNT: \$10 off for 2nd child, \$15.00 for 3rd child and up.

The Civic Center Fee is to help with the cost of our show, rental, electricians, lights, programs, and scenery. Parents will receive tickets at no additional cost. No admission fee is charged for the performance. The performance fee is due in October. A \$10 handling fee is added if fee is not paid by October 31st. **NO REFUNDS.**

Costume Deposits

Deposits are due in October. A \$25 deposit is due for each costume. All Junior and Senior Classes will have a \$35 per costume deposit. Balance of costumes is due in January. Balances paid after February 15, 2009 will be subject to a \$10 per costume "late order fee". A costume deposit tells me you are planning to be in the Recital and you are obligated to pay the balance of the costume. This policy is strictly enforced. Costume companies require ready-made costumes to be pre-paid. Students not making a deposit will not have costumes ordered. Costumes ordered after the original order requires additional work. It's best to order the whole class at one time to guarantee adequate arrival for our show. These payment procedures also insure that I do not get left with unpaid costumes. NO REFUNDS.

Costumes

All Tap & Ballet classes, ages 3 & 4 and Kindergarten will wear one ready-made costume for their Tap & Ballet Routines. Sometimes we have been able to wear PJ's, swim wear, dance wear or regular street clothes if it suits the alternate routine. Ages 1st grade and up will have a costume for each tap, ballet and jazz. Tumbling, Jazz, Hip Hop and Pom Pon classes have separate costumes. Average costume prices vary between \$70-\$85. Older students generally \$65-\$95. Much depends on the theme of their routine. Some costumes are ready made, but we also design some specialty outfits. Occasionally, we are able to wear a costume from the previous year. Pictures of costumes will be available at the studio when statements are sent.

Master Classes

Master Classes with Guest Instructors from California are offered during the fall. These are available to all the students First Grade and older. Watch for information.

Please note the schedule on the Master Calendar.

WHAT ELSE DOES YOUR CHILD NEED FOR RECITAL???

Props- Needing a prop will depend on the class routine. Each class will be notified if a prop is needed. This will be noted on the costume statement.

Tights- You will be informed on your costume statement what color of tights your child will need. Generally, we wear Capezio Stretch & Hold, #14c's/14 in Carmel/Ballet Pink.

Recital Options: requested by Parents, but not mandatory!!

*Recital Dance Photo's----You may be in the group photo even if you do not plan on purchasing the photos. We hang these photos in the Studio for the following year.

*Professional DVD's----Recital videos may be ordered of the Recital Performance, but you are allowed to take your own videos at the Dress Rehearsals.

If you have any question about our Recital or any of the above, please feel free to ask!!!

DANCE STUDIO CALENDAR

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS OUR DANCE STUDIO CALENDAR!

We DO NOT follow the Schools Calendar concerning in service days/holidays.

OCTOBER

Civic Center Performance Fee: Due by October 30th

Costume Deposit: Due in October

NOVEMBER

Parents Watch Week: Saturday, November 1st to
Thursday, November 6th

Thanksgiving Break: Monday, November 24th thru
Sunday, November 30th

DECEMBER

Ames Nutcracker: December 12th, 13th, & 14th

Christmas Break: Friday, December 21st thru
Wednesday, January 2nd

JANUARY

Classes Resume: Classes resume on Thursday,
January, January 3rd

Costumes Fee: Due in January

FEBRUARY

Parents Watch Week: Monday, February 2nd thru
Saturday, February 7th

MARCH

Spring Break: Monday, March 16th thru
Sunday, March 22nd

MAY

Costume/Recital Week: Tuesday, May 26th
Thru Monday, June 1st

JUNE

Recital Picture Days: June 13th & June 14th
Last Day of Regular Classes: Thursday, June 23rd
Dress Rehearsals: Civic Center Auditorium
Tuesday, June 23rd
Wednesday, June 24th

Recital Performances: Thursday, June 25th, 7:00 PM*

Friday, June 26th, 7:00 PM*

** As of this printing, there will be a possibility of two recitals on Saturday, June 27th.
Waiting on details of Hy Vee Triathlon.