Find herein many details concerning our yearly recital performance. We hope this will make your experience with our studio's recitals all the more enjoyable for your dancer & the proud audience members who attend. Thank you for your weekly dedication, and for your support of these fine, young people as they grow in skill and confidence. Please read the following information very carefully. If you have any questions that are not answered in this guide, please call us at 919-803-6044.

RECITAL HANDBOOK

COSTUMES:

*** Try everything on**, if there is a ***major*** fitting issue that you cannot handle yourself, we will handle alterations for you after costume picture week. Please note that safety pins work wonders for many fitting issues. If an alteration is absolutely needed, please reach out to Megan or Hillary and we will schedule a time for you to bring your child and costume to the studio. From there, Miss Hillary will decide what options are available.

* Label all parts, including shoes, with your child's name. A sharpie on an inside tag usually works well.

* Don't iron, if tutus are wrinkled, fluff and hang upside down.

* Hang them up away from pets and small children. **Please don't allow children to play dress-up until after the recital**.

* For the recital: no jewelry, **NO UNDERWEAR UNDER TIGHTS**, remove any stickers from tap shoes, no fake tattoos, Band-Aids should be clear.

* **Please do not let students eat, drink, or chew gum while wearing costumes.**

SHOES:

* All Tap classes should have black tap shoes

* All Ballet classes should have pink leather ballet shoes

* All Jazz classes should have tan pull on jazz shoes

* All Contemporary classes should have nude-color dance paws or pirouettes (half-soles).

* Hip Hop, Hip Hop & Tumble, and GameDay classes should wear white purchased sneakers.

*****PLEASE SEE HAIR & MAKE-UP INSTRUCTIONS AT THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT*****

REHEARSAL DAY:

□ WEAR your correct costume, tights and shoes to your rehearsal. **It is a full dress rehearsal.** Correct hair & make-up are **not** required for rehearsal, but it is a good time to practice!

□ **Arrive at the auditorium 30 minutes before your rehearsal time. You should be dressed and ready for your first dance.** Dancers should be dropped off at their designated seats in the balcony or backstage dressing room. DO NOT BE LATE! We start on time regardless of dancers being late!

*** **Students in 1st-3rd grade Combo classes, 3rd-5th grade Combo classes, 5th-7th grade classes, and 8th-12th grade classes should report to the backstage dressing rooms.**

ALL OTHER CLASSES GO TO THE BALCONY UPON ARRIVAL.

Each class in the balcony will have a "balcony mom" assigned to it. All other parents should sit in the main area of the auditorium and enjoy the show! We ask that parents do not come backstage except when dropping off a student at the dressing room. "Balcony moms" are responsible for keeping the children seated and quiet to ensure the safety and enjoyment of the shows. If you would like to volunteer as a "balcony mom", please email Ms. Hillary by May 5th. hillary@nansdancenc.com

□ Dancers in the balcony will sit with their class until it is their turn on stage. **Before their dance, the students will be escorted by a NAN'S STAFF member to the stage, and returned to their seats as a group by a NAN's STAFF member.** For safety reasons, **NO ONE** will be allowed to remove a child from their group while en route.

□ Costume changes are as follows:

- **Age 3-5 Combo class**: DURING INTERMISSION in balcony
- **Kindergarten Combo class**: Students will change shoes in backstage hallway during 1st or 2nd half. They will change their skirt / tutu as well as shoes DURING INTERMISSION in balcony. You will receive an email with more info.
- **1st-2nd Combo class:** Students will change shoes and the tutu/skirt of their 2-n-1 costume during the 1st half in the backstage hallway. They will change into their second costume DURING INTERMISSION using one of the backstage dressing rooms. You will receive an email with more info.
- **3rd-5th grade Combo class**: All costume changes will be in backstage dressing room.
- **Students taking multiple classes**: Students will change in assigned backstage dressing rooms.

□ Once you have finished your LAST dance, you may leave rehearsal. Your dancer should be picked up from their seat in the auditorium. Be sure to return any props. If it did not come in your costume bag originally, do not take it home!

□ **You are welcome to videotape and take as many non-flash pictures as you like during rehearsals. You may NOT take pictures or videotape during the recital.** Use your camera after the show is over to make pictures with dance teachers, proud grandmothers, classmates, etc.

RECITAL DAY:

□ **Arrive at the auditorium at least 30 minutes before your show time. You should be dressed & ready for your first dance. Doors open 45 minutes before show time.**

□ Recitals will run just like dress rehearsals in terms of where to go, when to change, what to wear, etc.

□ NO FOOD should be brought into the auditorium.

□ **Neither still pictures nor video is allowed at the recital performance.** Use your camera after the show is over to make pictures with dance teachers, proud grandmothers, classmates, etc.

□ Out of respect for our dancers on their big day, we expect everyone to remain for the ENTIRE RECITAL PERFORMANCE. Don't miss the big finale!

□ If you need to exit & re-enter the auditorium for any reason, please do so in between dances out of respect for the dancers and those trying to enjoy the show.

RECITAL DAY (Continued):

□ **After the show, ALL PreDance and Age 3-5 dancers should be picked up in the backstage hallway. Dancers, who are in the Finale, should be picked up from the rear dressing room or stage**. At rehearsal, we will give parents instructions about pick up. Dancers are more than welcome to take pictures at the front of the stage with their teacher AFTER the show.

□ For respect out of others, please keep all areas clean and tidy.

□ **Most importantly, relax and enjoy the day!**

OTHER IMPORTANT INFO:

□ We will be using **TAN & PINK tights** for all the dances in the recital. Please wear the color assigned to your class. (Ballet Pink for PreDance and Age 3-5 Combo classes; Tan tights for all other classes / age groups)

□ The best way to remember this momentous event in your child's life is a Professional Recording of the show! Order forms will be available before recitals and in the show program.

□ If you are behind on your monthly payments, your dancer will not be allowed to perform onstage until you are up to date with payments, including any late fees that may apply. All accounts must have a zero balance.

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. Who supervises during the show?
For safety reasons, we ask 1 or 2 parents per class to sit in the designated seating area with the dancers at all times. Call the studio or email by May 5th to volunteer. We appreciate your help tremendously!

2. When can we leave?
Parents/kids can leave after their final dance at rehearsal, BUT we ask that all stay for the recital out of respect for all the dancers and their families. All dancers will be in the finale dance.

3. My dancer uses a prop in class, but it wasn't in his/her costume bag. When will the class get them for their dance?
All classes receive props backstage just prior to performing & they will be taken as dancers leave the stage.

4. Who & how many can I invite to attend?
Unlike many studios, we do not charge admission to enter our shows. Closer to the show we will update you about the number of guests per family. This number will be anywhere from 7-10 guests per family depending on the show.

5. Where can we (and our guests) sit?
Seats are on a first come first serve basis. NO SAVING SEATS. We do ask that children 3 & under sit on an adult's lap.

6. How will my dancer change costumes?
Parents change their own children at intermission or at assigned times. "Balcony mom" volunteers are not responsible for changing costumes. Please see above for costume changing instructions.

7. How do classes get backstage on time for their dance?
All classes are escorted by a **Nan's STAFF member** from the auditorium to stage left. Timing is handled by our show director.

8. My costume doesn't fit!! What should I do?
Please email us with concerns and images so that we may best assist you.

HAIR INSTRUCTIONS:

* Most single hairpieces should be worn on their upper right side of the bun or ponytail.

* Ribbons that tie around bun or ponytail should be knotted with loose ends hanging down below the bun.

PreDance, Age 3-5 Combo, and ALL Combo classes Kindergarten through 5th grade:

High Curly Ponytail: A ponytail at the crown of head made up of lots of ringlet curls

What you will need: Gel, a comb, bobby pins (optional), hair rubberband, mousse, curlers, hair spray

What to do: **These are instructions for the perfect curly ponytail. However, it's 100% OK if it's not perfect!!!**
Hair should be dry. Apply gel generously to all hair, paying special attention to the whispies. Bangs are okay on little ones, as long as they are out of her eyes. Comb hair into a very secure ponytail on the crown of her head. Take a small section of hair into your hand and apply mousse. (The mousse should make the hair evenly damp, but not to wet that it won't dry once wrapped around the curler.) Wrap around a small sponge curler starting at the end of hair. Wrap all the way to the base of the ponytail. Repeat until all hair is in curlers, the more the better. Hair spray the entire head, blow-dry for a few minutes and then sleep on it.
Only one hairdo is required, so no amount of hair spray or gel is too much! "Slicked back" is supposed to look wet. Whispies are our enemy! :) A fake ponytail hairpiece also works wonders! They can be purchased online relatively cheap, but are not required.

Hip Hop classes (All Ages), Elementary Contemporary classes, GameDay, and Acro class:

Crazy Fun Hair: Have fun and be creative! You can do pigtails, braids, a faux hawk, or ponytail. Just make sure hair is secured and out of your face. If you are also in a Combo class, you will not have time to do something different to your hair. The high ponytail is great for all dances!

All 5th -7th and 8th-12th Grade Tap, Jazz and Contemporary Classes:

Low Ponytail: A straight ponytail near the bottom of the head slicked back from your child's natural part

What you will need: Gel, a comb, hair rubberband, hair spray

What to do: Hair should be dry and straightened. Apply gel generously to all hair at the roots, paying special attention to the whispies (if she has them). Part hair at your child's natural part. Slick the hair back into a low ponytail.

All 5th-7th and 8th-12th Grade Ballet Classes:

Low Bun w/ Part: Follow instructions for Low Ponytail w/ Part, then wrap ponytail into a bun and secure with a hair net and bobby pins.

Make-up Instructions:

For all of our dancers, please use your best judgement as to how little or how much make-up your child wears. While we do not require make-up, we do recommend a little bit of blush and lipstick for the younger dancers and natural looking make-up for the older dancers. The bright stage lights can wash out a dancer's face, which is why we recommend lipstick and blush. Please refrain from using dark eye make-up for any age dancer.