

Dear Parents and Students,

We are thrilled to provide Ovarions students with an exciting performance experience through our recital. It's a rite of passage for thousands of youngsters, a chance to shine. The recital offers our students a professionally directed performance that allows them to present to their families and friends the results of a year's hard work, dedication and progress. A big part of our 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 performance, they also contribute to children's success in non-performance 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 in an effort to clarify what we expect from you in terms of commitments and responsibility to the annual recital, the school and other students and parents.

New Recital and Dress Rehearsal Format

- **Three Shows-** we will be having three shows that comprise the recital this year at Sapulpa High School.
 - The Gym Show, May 22nd 10 a.m. will involve all *tumbling and gymnastics and All-Stars* in a circuit style showcase, much like a gymnastics meet. This will be in the gymnasium at Sapulpa HS.
 - The Dance Show will be later that evening (May 22) at 6 p.m. and will involve *Pre-K through High School dance class routines, cheer/pom, All-Stars and senior solos*. This will be held in the Sapulpa High School Auditorium.
 - The Competition Show will be Thursday, June 4th at 6:30 p.m. and will feature all Ovarions competitive dancers.
- **Dance Show Studio Run Through May 8th 10 a.m.-**This is our second annual studio run through. This is an opportunity to go over the shows downstairs in the ballroom.
- **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. Participation in the dress rehearsal is mandatory. **Only the dance show will have a dress rehearsal. This will be Friday May 21st at 5 p.m.** We run an organized and timely dress rehearsal; your help with the process will guarantee a professional production. Please arrive 30 minutes prior to curtain call. Students may arrive in their first performance costume or may change in the dressing room.
 - *Finale*
All students are invited and encouraged to participate in the finale. A run-through of the finale will take place at the dress rehearsal before Act I begins; all students will remain in their last performance costume for the finale.
 - *Dressing-room etiquette*
Students must respect other student's space and property in the dressing rooms. The students will spend more time in the dressing rooms than onstage or in the auditorium, so please do your best to keep them organized and clean. No food is allowed in the dressing rooms.
 - *Check-in*
Parents or guardians should bring the students to their assigned dressing rooms, where they will be checked in and placed under the supervision of their class mom (s).
 - *Video and photography*
Parents and guardians may videotape or shoot photographs for their children at the dress rehearsal. Please note: no video or flash photography will be allowed in the auditorium at the recital. A professional will be filming the performance night and DVDs will be available for purchase.

Backstage

Additional family members, all men and friends are not allowed backstage or in the dressing rooms during the rehearsal or the recital. The same applies during intermission and 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 should do so in the lobby areas. Mothers/guardians will be allowed to escort their child to their dressing room but once they have checked in with the class mom please go to the auditorium to enjoy their performance. Once their dance is over one female family member may return to the dressing room to check out their child.

Recital Updates

Recital information or updates in monthly newsletters. Please **make it your responsibility** to keep abreast of this important information. It is our goal to make the recital experience organized and exciting for all involved. It's a team effort; students, their parents, and our teachers are key players in the success of the show.

Home Study

To ensure that the students feel confident about their performance, we ask parents and guardians to encourage them to rehearse their recital choreography on a regular basis. A practice DVD of your child's dance and cheer routines will be available for \$5 to cover expenses. All practice DVDs will have the dances your child is in and will be available the week before Spring Break. To order a practice DVD, you must pre-pay at the front desk beginning in January. These practice DVDs are not the DVDs sold at the recital.

Costumes

We spend many hours determining the costumes for each class. **They are always age-appropriate.** We try to combine costumes to keep expenses down. Gymnastics, Tumbling, and Pom/Cheer students will wear Ovation tank tops and skorts, or shorts which are the same every year so you may re-wear or re-order. Your gym costume

is not included in your recital statement. You **MUST** purchase them through Kicks N Flips IF you need a new one. **All costumes meet studio dress code and can be used in the future for classes.** Costumes include all accessories (hat, gloves, etc.) but do not include hairpieces.

- *Deposits*

In an effort to ensure that costumes are delivered in time for pictures costumes are ordered several months prior to the May recital. Costume manufacturers do not accept cancellations or offer refunds; therefore **the school does not refund costume deposits.**

Costumes will not be ordered until your first two payments are made by **March 1st.** Parents or guardians accept full responsibility for all expenses. Tights will also be ordered with costumes to ensure there are no discrepancies in color and style. Please do not wear or wash them before the dress rehearsal or performance.

- *Sizing*

Each child will be measured in class to determine his or her proper costume size(s).

- *Distribution*

Costumes will be distributed when all outstanding balances for the season (including tuition) are paid in full. Deadline for all balances due is May 1st.

- *Withdrawal*

No refunds will be made if a parent or guardian withdraws a child from the school after costumes have been ordered and prior to the recital. Parent or guardians may pick up purchased costumes at the school at the time of general costume distribution and up to 15 days after the performance.

- *Costumes expense*

Accessories, such as headpieces or gloves, are included in the cost of the costume. Shoes and hairpieces are not.

- *Costume care*

We recommend that your child's name be placed in all costumes, shoes, accessories, and tights. Place costumes in a garment bag with your child's name on the bag and on each item. Press all costumes prior to the dress rehearsal and the performance. Please do not wash costumes in your washing machine; dry

clean them only after the recital.

- *Shoes*

The following shoes are required for all students.

Ballet: pink except 5th-6th grade we'll dye black

Tap: Children age 3 through 2nd grades must have black patent leather Mary Jane style shoes. Girls 3rd grade and above must have black jazz oxford style shoes.

Jazz: black jazz shoes

Hip Hop: black jazz tennis shoes for 3rd grade and up. K-2nd grade black jazz shoes or black tennis shoes.

Lyrical: tan Grecian sandals

Tumbling: barefoot

Boys: all shoes must be black

- *Hairpieces*

Pre-K through 2nd grade– curly hair “Aisha” at A1 Beauty Supply– 61st and Sheridan

3rd-12th grade- “Twist” from Sally’s Beauty Supply or “Curly Wrap” also at Sally’s.

Tumbling- girls wear pony tails.

Hair and Makeup

All female students are required to wear makeup for the recital; red lipstick, blush, eye shadow, and mascara. For the boys, a little blush works well.

Uniform hairstyles are required. All female students must wear their hair depending on what is called for in the dance. Hair instructions will be included in their costume bags at the time of distribution. No bangs are allowed. Dancers with short hair must pull their hair away from the face.

Pre-Planning

The recital isn't 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.

Bring at least one extra pair of tights of each color. Also bring extra hair gel, hair nets, bobby pins and hairspray. It helps to establish a “dance kit” to be

used solely for performances. Other handy extras include:

- Baby wipes/Shout wipes (to fix makeup mistakes or wash hands)
- Baby powder (for itchy costumes)
- Safety pins (for emergency costume repairs)
- Clear nail polish (to repair minor holes or runs in tights when there isn't time to change them)
- Your pain reliever of choice
- Band-Aids (the invisible kind)

Recital Volunteer Information

Anyone interested in volunteering to help backstage is welcome. Please do not bring guests, including children, with you while you are volunteering.

- *Class moms*

Class mothers are needed for each class to supervise the dancers. They will be able to watch their children perform from the audience. 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 after their performance. They will check the children in from their parents and back out to them once their performance is over. The number of volunteers needed for each class will be determined by the number of students (1 to 8 students= 1 volunteer; 9-17 students= 2 volunteers). During their class' performances, room mothers may leave the students at the stage door with their teacher and watch the dance from the back of the auditorium or stay backstage and watch from the wings. **New this year- there will be an area for kids to be taken if they are not picked up promptly after their dance so the backstage mom does not have to stay backstage the entire time.**

Recital Photos

Individual and Class photos will be taken on appointed days before the recital. All packages and scheduling

information will be handed out in class during the watch week in the spring.

Recital Fundraiser

In effort to help you cut costs of recital, we have developed a fundraiser. Ads will be sold in the program and may be purchased by businesses or individuals. You will be able to keep 20% of your profits and apply them toward your recital bill to cover costumes, pictures, recital video, etc. The rest of the money will cover the costs of printing programs, scenery, extra touches and renting the facility.

Concerns

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions or clarify any policies Ovarations has made. We are very welcoming and appreciative of the feedback you may have as we strive to be the best we can be and put on the best recital we can. Recital season is our busiest time of year and please do not be offended if we seem bogged down traveling from place to place or if we answer you in a hurried manner. We want to meet all your needs and concerns but please do not get offended if we seem preoccupied.

F.A.Qs

1. Does my child have to participate in recital?
No, we believe strongly that the recital offers our students a professionally directed performance that allows them to present to their families and friends the results of a year's hard work, dedication and progress. The experience helps build self-esteem, self-assurance and contributes to a sense of confidence. However, they do not have to participate.
2. Does the \$50 costume deposit I paid in November cover all the costs to participate in the recital?
The \$50 comes out of your total bill, but it is not the total bill.
3. What does the recital fee cover?
Ovarations rents the auditorium, dressing rooms and SHS staff for the recital. It also covers scenery, props, lighting equipment rental, programs, etc.

4. Do spectators pay for admission to the recital?
No, because of your recital fees we do not charge admission.

5. How do I reserve seats?
We sell reserved seats for \$5/person in a reserved section. Proceeds go to Ovarations scholarships.

6. How can I help?
We need your help! We need help with props, backstage, classes, photos, etc. Please leave your name at the front desk or email Rachel at Rachel@dance4ovations.com.

7. Can I still join tumbling/gymnastics or dance classes?
Tumbling/Gymnastics is always rolling admission. You can join at anytime. We can't take dancers that are not experienced into classes after January. The next opportunity to be in a dance class is this summer.

8. How do I get more information?
Recital info will be updated periodically via recital handbook, newsletters, our web site and instructions during our Spring Watch Week.

9. What dates do I need to commit to my schedule?
May 8th- dance show studio run through 10 a.m. (Ovarations)
May 21st- dance show dress rehearsal 5 p.m.(SHS)
May 22nd- gym show 10 a.m. (SHS)
May 22nd- dance show 6 p.m. (SHS)
June 4th- competition showcase 6:30 p.m.(SHS)



2010

OVATIONS RECITAL HANDBOOK