
2019 NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER—HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

It seems I was just welcoming everyone back to TMDA for the fall semester and now Thanksgiving is just around the corner!! Only four full classes left before our Christmas Recital so we still have plenty of work left to be done. I can say that Dance, Pointe and Tumbling are going absolutely wonderful and I could not be prouder of all the progress we are having. This makes all of us dance teachers and tumbling coaches very proud and very motivated to push a little harder to see what each class can accomplish! Thank you for bringing your children to us each week and for being supportive of them as well as us. Now on with the news.....

Important Dates:

Week of November 5, 2019: Dance and Tumbling. **Parent-Watch in all classes.**

Week of November 12, 2019: Dance and Tumbling.

Week of November 19, 2019: Dance and Tumbling

Week of November 26, 2019: Week off from Dance and Tumbling for Thanksgiving Holiday.

Week of December 3, 2019: Dance and Tumbling. **Parent-Watch in all classes.**

December 8, 2019 @ 2pm: Christmas Show at C-PAC for dance only, no tumbling.

Week of December 10, 2019: Christmas Parties in all classes, last week for Fall Classes.

Sunday, December 15, 2019 @ 7pm: Dan Ladner's Christmas Concert in Presque Isle for Company Dancers.

Week of January 7, 2020 : Beginning of Spring Semester and **Parent-Watch in all classes.**

January 9, 2020: if tuition is paid by this date, \$10 per class may be deducted from your tuition fee.

Week of January 14, 2020: Dance and Tumbling

January 15, 2020: All tuitions are due.

Week of January 21, 2020: Dance and Tumbling

Week of January 28, 2020: Week off from Dance and No Tumbling.

Week of February 4, 2020: Dance and Tumbling. **Parent-Watch in all classes.**

Week of February 11, 2020: Dance and Tumbling. **Studio photos in all DANCE classes only.**

Week of February 18, 2020: FEBRUARY BREAK, No Dance and No Tumbling.

Week of February 25, 2020: Dance and Tumbling

Week of March 3, 2020: Dance and Tumbling. **Parent Watch in all classes.**

Week of March 10, 2020: Dance and Tumbling

Week of March 17, 2020: Week off from Dance and Tumbling.

Week of March 24, 2019: Dance and Tumbling

Week of March 31, 2020: Dance and Tumbling.

Week of April 7, 2020: Dance and Tumbling. **Parent Watch in all classes.** Studio Photographs in all Tumbling classes.

Week of April 14, 2020: Dance and Tumbling

Week of April 21, 2020: April Break, No Dance and No Tumbling

Week of April 28, 2020: Awards Week #25! **Parent-Watch in all classes.**

Monday, May 4, 2020: Finale Rehearsal-MANDATORY

Wednesday, May 6, 2020: Dress Rehearsal - MANDATORY

May 8, 9 & 10, 2020: "MOANA" at C-PAC

New York City Trip: June 25-28, 2020

Summer activities include: TAP CAMP, Hip-Hop Camp, TUMBLING CAMP & DANCE CAMP-WEEK INTENSIVE. DATES TBA!

*****(Some of the above dates may change but you will be notified well in advance in that should occur.)***

It is imperative that you know the above dates so please put them in your calendar for reference.

Parent- Watch:

There will be a Parent-Watch in all classes November 5, 6 & 7, 2019. We will call all parents in the last 15 minutes of class to go over any questions from the November Newsletter and we will also dance for you!! You don't want to miss it!! Our December Parent-Watch will be on December 3, 4 & 5, 2019. (Troupe and Company will always have their Parent-Watch at 9:30pm as we cannot afford to lose any precious time in class...thanks for understanding.)

Senior and Youth Practices:

Below is a new schedule so please note the changes:

Wednesday, November 6, 2019 @ 7:30pm: All seniors & all youth cast. We will do ALL of Act 1, from beginning to end. Please plan on another 9:30pm night.

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 from 7:30-9:30pm: Full dress rehearsal for entire cast. All make-up, all hair, all shoes, all costumes, all props. Every costume for every child for every song! Everyone must be in full costume, hair and make-up and ready to start at 7:30pm. You can come to the studio by 7pm and get ready in the locker room and small studio. **Do not forget all of your props!**

Wednesday, November 20, 2019: 7:30 until we finish; Entire cast for FULL DRESS REHEARSAL WITH ALL COSTUMES AND PROPS for Act 1. Every costume for every child for every song! Everyone must be in full costume, hair and make-up and ready to start at 7:30pm. You can come to the studio by 7pm and get ready in the locker room and yellow studio. Do not forget all of your props!

Wednesday, DECEMBER 4, 2019: 7:15 until we finish: Last full DRESS REHEARSAL before the Christmas Show! Again this is for the entire cast with all costumes and all props and all shoes for all songs.....you know what we need correct? **This will include all Christmas songs as well!**

****TO ALL youth PARTS and Seniors:** For the next 3 weeks, you must be going to your classes that you have choreography in so that you know everything you need to know by our 1st full dress rehearsal. We do not have time to place you during senior and youth rehearsals so please....be at your classes ok? As soon as you know what you are doing in each of those classes, you can stop going until the week before our Christmas Show.

FESTIVAL OF TREES:

You can start bringing in your gifts (the gifts have already started coming in, THANK YOU!) for under our "TMDA Giving Tree". Our Christmas Tree theme is "A Hawaiian Christmas" ...in celebration of Moana. When you bring your gift in, please have the secretaries add your name to the Tree List. The prize this year that I am giving to one lucky winner is:

1-Moana T-shirt 2020

2- 5 extra free tickets to our Moana Recital (above and beyond the 12 you can purchase at Ticket Day)

3-Free Moana Recital video.

That's a \$120 prize!. So please help in our effort to have the best tree at the Festival of Trees. We have an amazing dance family and together as a group we can make a difference! Thank you for your generosity!

Halloween Parties:

Thank you to all who helped with the Halloween parties, who brought in treats and who sent me great pictures. This is always a fun time for our students and it is because of you, the parents who go out of your way each year to make this such a huge success for our students. Thanks so very much, we had a ball!! I posted all the class pictures on my Facebook page...they are adorable!! The costumes were so amazing again this year...it really is so much fun for us to see them come into our studio dressed up. And if truth be told....us instructors like dressing up too!!!

Thanksgiving 2019:

There will be no dance or tumbling the week of Thanksgiving, November 25-29, 2019. Dance/tumbling will resume the week of December 3, 2019. We hope you have a wonderful holiday and please take the time to enjoy each other and this amazing season!!

Food for the Needy during Thanksgiving:

As we have done for the past 12 years, TMDA is collecting food for the Catholic Charities food pantry. I will conduct the same contest again this year: when you bring

in food products, you will bring it into the front office before placing the items in the boxes under by the double doors. The secretaries will take your name and then at the Christmas Show...I will pick one name out of all of those who brought in food items and that lucky winner will receive a 50% discount on his/her spring tuition. This is for all of my dancers and tumblers too! The pantry desperately needs our help so please, be generous if you can. They look forward to us bringing in all the boxes each year so please, if you can...they are in desperate need of cereal, canned goods, juice.....but they will take anything you can give. Every year we bring in more and more food....and I wish you could see how much Catholic Charities appreciates what we do. My goal again this year is to bring in 2 large "costume boxes" of food to the food pantry from each class...we need to collect 34 boxes of food! We need all donations to be brought in by Wednesday, November 20, 2019 which means we only have 3 weeks to accomplish this feat!! We will be delivering the food to Catholic Charities on Thursday, November 21 so please do not drop off food past this date. Can we all try to remember to do so this week and remind your classmates as well! Can we all jump to that challenge? Thank you all in advance for your continued generosity and good luck to being the winner of Half-Off Spring Tuition!

Winter Announcements:

I will only cancel dance when/if all the area schools are cancelled. I will post on Colleen's corner by noon of the day of dance if I have decided to cancel dance for that evening. We will do our best to reschedule dance for the evening cancelled but this will be up to the discretion of the instructor. During the winter months, it is imperative that we keep the door closed between the outside door and the waiting area; we have put in this door to keep our children warm during the winter months so please, take off your boots and put them away into a cubby before opening the door to the waiting area. We need your utmost cooperation with this. Finally, I am begging you to please use the cubbies for all of your shoes....it is a hazard to have them lying all over the entrance. Parents, please make sure your children use the cubbies and if you put your own shoes there, I am sure your children will follow suit. Also, students are still leaving with the wrong shoes. This cannot continue to happen. **Please mark all of your outdoor shoes as well as your dance shoes.** Double check to make sure your children have the correct shoes before leaving. I feel for the parents that this continues to happen too....we need to make a huge effort to check shoes before leaving. Thank so much!!!

Costumes:

Please purchase your dance costumes..... **A \$10 late fee has been added to all costumes** and will continue to be added each week that they are left in our dance store. Deana is adhering to this rule for everyone as that is only fair. The pictures of these costumes have been loaded onto the costume page. All costumes must be purchased by the Christmas Show in order for you to purchase your Christmas Tickets. Remember that the \$60.00 costume deposit fee was subtracted from the total sum of your costumes.

I have done my best to order the nicest, most appropriate and well-made costumes available to me. This is no easy task and I take it very seriously. There are times that I may have had to order one size up for your child or made an adult small into a child x-large....these are decisions I had to make in order to purchase the costume that we needed for a certain class. I appreciate your cooperation with the choices I made. Our

recitals are always beautiful and are dancers are always stunning. I am sure this recital will be no different.

** Please note that if you are not maintaining your payment plans then you are being charged late fees and you will be responsible for these late fees before you will be able to purchase your Christmas tickets. This is your responsibility to have these payments to the office on time. Remember, VENMO is an easy app to install and then this way you will have your payments in on time. So please, be prepared to pay these late fees. (Deana will not remove your late fees....it is not fair to everyone else.)

Studios and unattended children:

Children are not allowed in studios when teachers are not present. That means that if there is a free studio, please do not allow children in there to play. This is not a good idea for a lot of reasons. This at times has been a problem and we ask that you please supervise your children while waiting for class. Please...we are trying to avoid injury! And finally, no running in the hallways...this is sure way of getting hurt and we do not want that for our dancers or tumblers.

Group Photos from Jeff Clark:

If you purchased group photos last spring from Jeff Clark, they are in a black file box in the waiting area. I apologize that some of you are still asking for them....please look in this box to see if your group photo is in there. They are filed under individual names. Let me know if you need any extra assistance in tracking these down if yours does not happen to be in that file. I again I apologize for the inconvenience 😞.....

"Mele Kalikimaka"

This is the title of our Christmas Show this year, to be held at the Caribou Performing Arts Center on Sunday, December 8th, 2019 @ 2PM. ***Each family*** will be able to purchase 4 tickets to this performance and they will be available for pick-up in the dance store starting the week of November 12th, 2019. The cost is \$10 per ticket. The Christmas show is designed to give you, the parents (and possibly some siblings) the chance to see what your children have been learning this semester. I do realize that these children all have grand-parents who wish to see them dance and especially at this time of the year when we celebrate family however.....there are only 830 seats in C-Pac and we have over 280 dancers/tumblers this year so I am doing my best trying to give everyone show tickets. **The show is general seating so please, do not save seats: we will not allow for this to happen.** If you need more tickets, sign up with the office secretaries and we will do our best to get extra tickets to you. We will sell the remainder of tickets on Tuesday, December 3th, starting at 6pm (so that all "tuition-plan" people can have their tuition payment made by this time) so you must pick up your 4 tickets we have reserved for each family before this time or we will sell your tickets to those who have signed up for more.

Each dancer must come to C-Pac ready, in full costume and ready to dance. Parents need to hold your children's coats and boots as we do not have the cafeteria for this show. (Pointe girls will change in the girl's locker room near the gym) This show is not a recital and will not be treated as one...it is more relaxed and we want the kids to have fun. It is just a chance for all of us to come together and enjoy how talented your children are. The doors to C-Pac will open at 1:30 and we expect the show to be

about an hour long. The Christmas Show Line-Up will be listed in the December Newsletter so that you can download this to know when your child will be dancing. You will need to stay with your child until 10 minutes before the show. The DM's are only in charge of your kids from 1:50pm until they bring them back to the cafeteria. No children will be allowed to be picked up in the audience. You must pick up your children in the cafeteria. Everyone needs a ticket to this show...all mothers included. (Except of course our DM's.) Please go to the costume page so that you all know how to properly wear the costume and what your hair, tight and shoe requirements are. EVERYONE MUST BE ALIKE SO PLEASE ADHERE TO THE REQUIREMENTS. You must not wear any dangling earrings, necklaces, bracelets or watches during any of our performances. Only headpieces that come with the costumes may be worn. Everyone must wear show tights. The line-up Moms will line up their classes in the hallway in between the cafeteria and the music room. The dancers will be allowed into C-Pac after they have performed so please keep the aisles clear for them to come back in. We will go over which aisles the children will sit in with the DM's that will be in charge of each class. You will be updated in the December Newsletter.

Temple parents will sit in the upper right corner of C-Pac and we will have seats reserved for you there so that you may hold your children after they have performed. They are the first to perform so we will bring them to you there. Thanks! Those classes that are doing multiple dances for the Christmas Show will NOT change costume. You will remain in the same costume for all of your dances as we do not have the space or time for you to change. This does not include our pointe classes or our senior and youth parts...all of you will need to change back stage in the music room.

Because our dance finale is performed all on stage again this year and not in the aisles as we had done in the pastit is impossible for us to get you on stage without a dress rehearsal. Therefore, for our Christmas show we will be having all of our dancers do the finale from the aisles. It is totally impossible to have everyone lined up properly back stage without a dress rehearsal. If we did do this, then we could not allow the children to watch the show after they have completed their dance because they would have to begin lining up for the finale. With this said, we continue to think it is best for our Christmas Show to have everyone (except for Troupe, Company and Mini Troupe) dance in the aisles for the finale. You have to trust us on this....we know what we are doing and we would rather sacrifice everyone being on stage for the last 2 minutes of our Christmas Show then to have all of our dancers losing the ability to watch the show.

NOTE: This is a fun time for your children because this is a laid-back production...we do this without a dress rehearsal so whatever happens...happens! Let's all go into this show with that same attitude....and everyone will leave smiling!

Second Note: Because we do not showcase tumbling during the Christmas show....we do not offer tickets to our tumblers. However, if there are any left-over tickets and you have your name on our sign-up list then our tumblers will be allowed to receive left over tickets (2 per family). We will sell left over tickets to you as well starting at 6pm on Tuesday the 4th of December. I will be at Tumbling the week before

our Christmas Show from 4-6pm to allow the tumbling parents to purchase the left over tickets as well.

Photos of the Christmas Show:

Lyndsey Maynard will be taking pictures of our Christmas Show again this year. . We will not allow any flash photography or photography of any kind!! Therefore, WE WILL NOT ALLOW CAMERAS INTO C-PAC and our Police Officer on duty will take your phones if you decide to video tape. Our photographers take beautiful pictures so that you can all just sit back and enjoy the show. We will have more information concerning how you will purchase these photos in the December Newsletter.

Dan Ladner's Christmas Concert:

Our Company girls have been asked again by Mr. Ladner to dance at his annual Christmas Concert, at the Methodist Church in Presque Isle. This will take place on Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 7pm. You will all wear your white dance dresses with white convertible tights and your paws. I will have more on this in the December Newsletter so please put this date down in your calendar.

Private Lessons:

For those of you needing private lessons, Miss Malerie, Miss Delaney, Miss Sheridan and Miss Elizabeth are available. You can set up these lessons by contacting them at miss.malbuck@gmail.com, or williamsd@sad1.org or sheridan1@maine.rr.com or mcoll78@msn.com. Miss Emma will be available for private lessons from December 15th through January 15th and you can set these lessons up by contacting her at emma.jandreau@maine.edu . All private lessons must be paid for at the time of the lesson.

Final Thoughts:

I love this time of the year...not the cold weather (definitely not the cold weather!) but what joy this time of year brings to each of us. We all have so much to be thankful for!! I am forever grateful for this amazing place that I get to work in each week, with co-workers that have become family to me, with children that I love entirely and all the while doing something that I still enjoy doing so very much! I always say I have the best job in the world and I still truly mean it!

Take time to enjoy each other during the Thanksgiving Holiday. If we can all remember to do one nice thing for someone less fortunate, then just think what an even more wonderful place this world would be! Have a wonderful Thanksgiving all of you!

"if you can be anything in this world, be kind... 😊"

Your TMDA Familyand me, Miss Colleen

