

Dear Parents,

September 2, 2022

Thank you for being part of TMDA's 29th season and Encanto. We are looking forward to another magical year.

I will be posting class list later tonight but before I do so I wanted you all to take a moment to read this letter. Creating my class list each year is my most difficult task of the season and I take it very seriously. I want every child to succeed at dance and tumbling and to do so they need to be placed in the correct class. Pushing a student too much will not allow them to flourish and we will lose them because it is just too difficult. I do realize that most students want to jump ahead to a different class each year however, spending more than one year in a class is actually very beneficial to them. I often tell our students that sometimes you are the youngest in a class and sometimes you are the oldest. When you're the youngest, you learn by watching the older ones and it pushes you to become better. When you are the older one in a class, you become a role model to the younger dancers. It also makes you a better dancer because often it puts you in a lead and it gives you the confidence you need to move forward the following year. In some of our troupe classes, some students are in the same class up to three and four years and that has not held them back in becoming a more competent dancer in any way. It has given them the opportunity to learn first, and then to lead, which is what dance and tumbling is all about. This is how you work on your skills to become a better dancer or tumbler.

I am a mother first and then I am a dance teacher, so I do have your child's best interest in mind when placing them in the correct classes. I'm going to need you to trust my decisions as I've been doing this for almost 30 years now (PHEW!!). If I have by chance made a mistake, I will contact the parent of the child within the first two weeks of dance class and we will discuss what we are seeing and make a plan for moving forward. As for tumbling, we use the first two weeks of tumbling to decide exactly where your child should be. For now, in tumbling, we have made decisions based somewhat on their talent and their age. If we see that they have been placed incorrectly, again we will contact the parent of the child within the first two weeks of classes to discuss our options.

I will post the class list later tonight. I will also post the weekly schedule of classes so that you know what nights you will dance, tumble or do ballet/pointe. I will post the fee schedule for all classes as class tuition fees will be due the first week of classes. If you pay your full tuition fees by Thursday, September 22, 2022 then you can deduct \$10 from each tuition fee that you are paying for. You will have until Wednesday, September 28, 2022 to pay your tuition fees without any late fees. After that day, a late fee of \$10 a week will automatically be added to your outstanding bill. If you cannot pay all of your tuition fee at once, you can download the Payment Plan from our website and hand it to our secretaries the first week of classes. You will need to pay promptly on your payment plans

as well to avoid the \$10 late fee per week of overdue fees. Payment Plans are for tuition fees only. Costumes fees must be paid in full when they arrive. (More on this in the September Newsletter)

Dance and ballet start on Tuesday, September 20th and Wednesday, September 21, 2022. Tumbling starts on Thursday, September 22, 2022.

The dance store will be open on Monday September 19th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM for those of you who need supplies before dance and tumbling starts. The dance store will also be open September 20 and 21, and September 27 and 28th so that everybody will get the chance to get their supplies and pay their tuition bills in September. After that, the dance store will be open every other week. I will post the dates the dance store is open in each monthly newsletter.

It is imperative that each family download these 4 very important apps:

VENMO: For making payments to the studio. You can find me at @Colleen-DuPlissie

DropBox: For receiving all of your weekly dance and ballet choreography

Messenger: For receiving class communication from your instructors.

ZOOM: For access to class when classes are cancelled.

Please do this immediately as we will start communicating with you on September 7th with your first group Messenger posting. Make sure you friend me on Messenger so that I can add you to your class Messenger. You can find me on Facebook at Colleen DuPlissie.

Thank you for entrusting us with your children's dance, tumbling and ballet/pointe education. Do not hesitate to message me on messenger or through my email at misscolleen@themainedanceacademy.com with any questions or concerns. Please make sure you read our September Newsletter on September 7th so that you will be updated on everything you need to know to start our fall semester. Until then, stay safe and thank you for trusting our decisions with your child placement for 2022-23. See you soon!

Miss Colleen

