



# THE MAINE DANCE ACADEMY



## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER-2024

Thank you all for being part of our Academy. We had an amazing first 3 weeks of dance and tumbling and we are so looking forward to starting new choreography this coming week. We have completed our ALADDIN Finale in all our classes and our students have handled it so very well. They are dancing with a lot of enthusiasm and that makes us quite proud and happy. Our tumblers are getting back into the swing of things, and we look forward to seeing their skills improve each week.

### IMPORTANT FALL SCHEDULE 2024:

OCTOBER 7,8,9,10: DANCE AND TUMBLING

OCTOBER 14,15,16,17: DANCE AND TUMBLING: DANCE STORE IS OPEN

OCTOBER 21,22,23,24: DANCE AND TUMBLING

OCTOBER 28,29,30, AND NOVEMBER: HALLOWEEN PARTIES IN ALL CLASSES: (THURSDAY CLASSES WILL BE MOVED TO FRIDAY SO THAT KIDS CAN GO TRICK OR TREATING): DANCE STORE IS OPEN

NOVEMBER 4,5,6,7: DANCE AND TUMBLING

NOVEMBER 11,12,13,14: DANCE AND TUMBLING: DANCE STORE IS OPEN

NOVEMBER 18,19,20,21: DANCE AND TUMBLING:

NOVEMBER 25,26,27,28 NO DANCE AND NO TUMBLING: HAPPY THANKSGIVING

DECEMBER 2,3,4,5: DANCE AND TUMBLING: DANCE STORE IS OPEN

DECEMBER 9,10,11,12: DANCE AND TUMBLING: CHRISTMAS PARTIES IN ALL CLASSES

DECEMBER 15, 2024: CHRISTMAS SHOW AT C-PAC @ 2PM

DECEMBER 16, 2024-JANUARY 12, 2025-CHRISTMAS BREAK, NO CLASSES.

### TUITION and PAYMENT PLANS:

All tuitions are now overdue and will have a \$10 late fee added to them each week. **We cannot return costumes therefore**, we can only order costumes once your costume deposit has been made. When costumes are not ordered in the bulk order, there are additional shipping fees that go along

with ordering single costumes that will be charged to your account. ( Unfortunately, costumes ordered for you after COSTUMES HAVE ALREADY BEEN ORDERED will have late fees charged as well as all shipping costs associated with late costume purchases.) **The costume deposit fee will be deducted from your overall costume prices.**

**\*\*NOTE:** All 45 minute to 1 hour classes will have 2 costumes, 1.25 hour classes will have 3 costumes and 1.5 hour classes will have 3-4 costumes. Ballet classes will have 2 costumes each while tumbling will only have 1 costume.

It is very difficult for Shannon to keep track of payments that come in randomly. **Therefore, if you have not paid for your tuition in full, then you need to have a Payment Plan.** This rule is for everyone. Those who have not paid in full or do not have a Payment Plan set up will now have received late fees so please take care of this with Shannon this week to avoid any other late fees.

### **ENTERING AND EXITING CORRECT DOORS:**

Please use the correct doors when entering the building. We do this so that we can have students enter and exit quickly so that we do not lose precious class time. Also, please wait until we call each class into the building. It is so much easier for us to have one class exit the building before having the next class come in. It is less confusing for the children this way as well.

Parents need to be at the studio 5 minutes before the end of each class to pick-up their children. When children are not picked up on time, this causes the next class to be late coming into the building as we are busy trying to find parents.

**All parents and students MUST use the cubbies for outdoor shoes and boots.** We have had a lot of parents these past 3 weeks wearing their outside shoes in the dance store and waiting area and we are asking you to **please take off your outside shoes immediately when coming into our building.** Please do not leave them on the rug as this is a tripping hazard for everyone. **THIS IS FOR EVERYONE...NO OUTSIDE SHOES SHOULD LEAVE THE ENTRANCES AS THIS BECOMES A SLIPPING HAZARD FOR TAP DANCERS AND OUR POINTE DANCERS.**

### **DROP-OFFS AT THE DOOR:**

Parents of Temple & Napoleon students can still come into the building and wait for their children since they are needed for bathroom breaks. If Napoleon children can go to the bathroom unattended, then parents of those children can help us get them into class and then you can leave and be back 5 minutes before then end of class to grab your child. ALL other students for all other classes (including all tumbling classes) will be dropped off at the door and your instructors and coaches will take it from there. Thank you for your cooperation with drop-off and pick-ups.

NOTE: PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CHILDREN AT THE DROP-OFF DOOR UNATTENDED. Please wait with your children until the instructors/coaches let them into the building. Please be on time when picking your children up as we also cannot leave them unattended. Thank you!

## **DANCE STORE:**

Please see the above schedule for when the Dance Store is open. When costumes arrive, Shannon will be available 2 weeks in a row for you to purchase your costumes. We will let you know when this will be as all costumes were ordered this past weekend. **Remember, when the dance store is not open, we will be locking the doors in between classes for the safety of your children and our faculty**

## **TMDA Clothing:**

We just need to clarify a few things:

1-Everyone must be dressed in TMDA black attire for dance and tumbling.

2-For tumbling: girls need to be leotards/shorts and boys need to be in shirts that are tucked in their shorts. (this is for safety when tumbling.)

3-For Ballet/Pointe: Pink tights and pink shoes must be worn by all our ballerina's. If you are not wearing a pink dress, then you will need a black leotard with a pink ballet skirt.

4-Everyone with long hair must have it tied up either in a ponytail or braid. Ballet ladies need to have their hair in a bun. (It is impossible to turn across the floor with hair wiping dancers in the face.)

## **COSTUMES:**

**Costumes for all classes have been ordered!!** This is a long process and we take ordering costumes for all students very seriously. Chances are that they will arrive this week and if they do, we will tag them and have them available for pick up next week. Once you know that they are available for purchase, **you will have 2 weeks to purchase your costumes without late fees.** Costume prices will include the tights that go with each costume. When you are purchasing your costumes, you will tell Shannon what size you need, and she will give them to you with your costumes.

I will post a **COSTUME PAGE** to our website hopefully by Tuesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of October. On this Costume Page you will know the following:

1-Price of each class's costumes

2-Tights and shoes that go with each costume

3-Hair requirements and accessories

4- Song for each costume

5-The price you see on the Costume Page is with the Costume Deposit already deducted. This is the price you will pay when picking up your costumes. Almost the entirety of our selections have come from 2024 catalogs: discount catalogs are pretty much non-existent anymore. Also, clearance costumes rarely have the sizes we need for each class. Costumes are more expensive every year, this is just how it is and sadly, this year is no exception. I have done my best to keep costs down, chose costumes that go with our Aladdin theme when possible, and have your children in the nicest

costumes that are produced. I have been doing this for 31 years now, and I have never had a child without a beautiful costume at recital time.

It is imperative that you print this Costume Page for the Christmas Show as well as the Spring Recital. This is your guide to have your child prepared for all our shows.

I do everything I can to get your child the costume size you need. Sometimes I have to order a size up ....it is just how it is. I need you all to understand this. There are also some costumes that do not come in child X-large or Adult-X-large ....that is just how it goes. If I cannot get a child x-large then I will order an Adult Small. The same goes for child x-small and adult x-small.

Please remember that ordering costumes for everyone is a time-consuming job. I want everyone to look their best, so I thank you in advance for accepting my choices.

### **Halloween Parties:**

We will have Halloween parties in all classes the week of October 28, 29, 30 and November 1. Tumbling on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> is being moved to November 1<sup>st</sup> so that all our tumblers can participate in Halloween. Below you will find a list of all classes with how many children are in each class. You can send treats into class with your child, and we will pass them out to the children. **We ask that you do not send in anything that is not wrapped (cookies, cupcakes etc....) as this is very hard for children to take home with them. Please send a bag or container in with each of your children so that they have something to bring their treats home in.** They leave with a lot of treats so **PLEASE remember to give them all a container/bag!!**

Your instructors will all be in costume so YES...everyone come in Halloween Costumes! We ask that our students not weary scary or bloodied costumes to class as this scares the younger students at TMDA. This is one of my very favorite classes of the year and I cannot wait to see everyone's costumes!

**NOTE:** For our tumblers, please remember that we are still having class so you must be able to tumbling in your costume or have a leotard under so that you can easily take your costume off to tumble.

Temple: 14	Napoleon: 16
Tabitha: 18	Astaire: 16
Fosse: 16	Glover: 11
Graham: 17	Copeland: 15
Petite: 14	Tiny: 14
Mini: 14	Troupe: 18
Company: 14	Pavlova: 14
Lopokova: 18	Nureyev: 14
Hough: 15	Baryshnikov: 8

Retton: 12 Biles: 15 Conner: 18 Korbut: 14 Chiles: 14

Enjoy Trick or Treating everyone and be safe!

### **PRIVATE LESSONS:**

If your child would like extra help with classes, you may contact your instructors for private lessons. **All private lessons must be paid to TMDA on the day of your private lessons.** Cancellation of private lessons must be done 24 hours in advance, or you will be charged the full amount of the private lesson. Costs for these lessons are \$30 per half hour.

### **BATHROOM BREAKS:**

Please...please...please...have your children go to the restroom before class. We are not allowed to bring them to the restroom, so we ask that you do that for us before class time.

### **MARK YOUR SHOES:**

Please label all your children's shoes. If you all do this then when shoes are left behind, we can place the lost shoes in the back office and save them for you. Take time and mark your children's shoes. We are just trying to save you all a headache and money too!

### **ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE:**

It is time again to collect food donations for our Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for Catholic Charities. I will put out boxes for your food donations starting NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2024. We will collect these donations until Thursday, November 21, 2024. That gives us 3 full weeks to collect as much food as possible. Again, best items to donate are Cereal boxes, Juice, canned vegetables, soups, stuffing...anything non-perishable. I will again make a contest out of this...when you bring in your donations, sign your name to the donation sheet. At our Christmas Show, I will pull one name out of a hat and that lucky person will receive half-off their Spring tuition for one class. I want to collect 2 full boxes of food from each class so that's 40 boxes of food!! Let's do this TMDA!!!

### **MY FINAL THOUGHTS:**

Thank you again for bringing your children to TMDA. Danielle, Malerie, Emily, Delaney, Chris, Elizabeth, Brittany, Allison, Raegan, Sadie, Mallory, Viv, Jordyn and I thoroughly enjoy teaching your children. Shannon will do everything she can to help you with your dance and tumbling supplies as well as your costume needs. I am so lucky to have all these amazing humans' part of my team and we will all do our best to make sure your children have a well-balanced dance and tumbling education with us. If at any time you have something you need to speak to your instructor about, do not hesitate to e-mail them. If you need to speak with them in person, then we can set up a time and date for that as well. The only way we can help you is through good communication so let's please keep those lines up and communications open.

I will be away for part of October but as you know by now, my team of instructors are talented, caring and extremely skilled at what they do.... not to mention that they are well trained and

professional too! They absolutely love dance and more importantly, your children. I have complete faith in "my crew" and I believe you all do too. I can't wait to see their progress when I return!

Our Cast practices was a lot of fun and very productive. Between those practices and our first 3 weeks of dance and tumbling, I know that Aladdin will be a colorful and wonderful show!

We cannot wait to see everyone in Halloween Costumes in a couple of weeks! Talk to you all soon!

*Miss Colleen*