

TO

THE POINTE

DANCE FREMONT! FALL NEWSLETTER 2011



WELCOME BACK!

Welcome, new and returning students and parents! We hope that everyone enjoyed a fun and recuperative summer that will provide wonderful memories for the fall and winter days ahead. The DF! Faculty is excited to get back to teaching you about dance and the many other skills that accompany the study of this art form. For those taking their very first classes: A very special welcome to you! Please take the time to read this newsletter, which has valuable information. You may direct any questions to Vivian Little (Vivian@dancefremont.com) or Mary Reardon (Mary@dancefremont.com), co-directors of DF!. Bridget Reardon, DF!'s receptionist will also be present at the front desk on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Fridays from 3-7PM and Saturdays from 8:30-12 noon.

IT'S IN THE BAG

Essential items for the dancer's bag

- Class Leotard & Tights
- Slippers (if appropriate)
- Pointe Shoes (if appropriate)
- Water Bottle

- Hairbrush
- Hair pins & bobby pins
- Hair elastics & hairnets

*All clothing, slippers & water bottles should be labeled

Optional items...

- Warm up sweater
- Leg warmers
- Band Aids
- Sewing kit
- Nutritious snack

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept.12-Nov. 12: First Quarter

Oct.31-Nov.12: *Second Quarter tuition is due

Nov. 7-12: Observation Week

Nov. 14-Jan. 28, 2012: Second Quarter

The Steadfast Tin Soldier (STS) Ballet Auditions: Sept. 24, 2:30-5:30PM

Oct. 8: Costume Sale Fundraiser (See Page 3)

Nov. 24-27: Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 7-8: STS Technical & Dress Rehearsals at Shorecrest Performing Arts Center (SPAC)

Dec. 9-11: STS Performances at SPAC

Dec. 18-Jan. 1, 2012: Winter Break

Jan.2: Resume Second Quarter Classes

**Note: No Tuition Reminders sent; \$15 late fee charged after this week*

PRACTICE FOR A CHINOIS

Please ask your daughter to practice putting her hair into a neat ponytail. This is the first step to learning how to make a hair bun.

All photos by Colleen Dishy
Available @ www.dishyphoto.com



The Steadfast Tin Soldier, A Story Ballet

This winter Dance Fremont! will present the 15th annual performances of Hans Christian Andersen's tale of The Steadfast Tin Soldier. *This year we have 4 performances. One school show at 10AM on Fri. 12/9, 2PM and 7:30PM on Sat. 12/10 and a 2PM show on Sun. 12/11.*

Participants must be students of Dance Fremont! and 7 years of age. Students older than 7 years must be enrolled in a ballet class.

Mandatory Saturday afternoon (and an occasional Sunday) rehearsals from October until the performance date ensure that class time is not taken away from students (not all characters will rehearse every Sat.). A \$45 performance fee is required from each participant. There are no excused absences for rehearsals or performances during the week in the theater (see Important Dates on Page One). Your child will miss school on the morning of Friday, Dec. 9th.

A rehearsal schedule will be provided. This is a wonderful performing and learning opportunity for the students.

Each role has a limited amount of rehearsals. If a child misses their first rehearsal, it has a great impact on the child's self-confidence and on the other students who are trying to imagine a missing body. One absence is allowed only for illness or a family emergency. Please do not intentionally plan an absence! If a child misses more than one rehearsal, they will be excused from the production.

Sunday after Thanksgiving is a mandatory rehearsal.

PARKING AT DF!

We share an easement with the driveway that leads into the 3 DF! parking spots and our neighbor's parking area.

Please respect our neighbor's property use and limit your parking to the DF! spaces or street parking at all times (this includes weekends and evenings).

Do not park in the driveway to quickly come in to take care of business or bring your child into the building.

We provide a drop off area in front of the building. Do not park in this area during your child's class.



Auditions are Saturday, Sept. 24th

- ***New Parent informational meeting 2:30-3:00**
- **Prep II, Ballet IA & IB at 3:00-3:30PM**
- **Ballet II & III at 3:45-4:30PM**

Ballet IV, V & VI at 4:45-5:30PM Ballet IV-VI are encouraged to come early to warm up in Studio.

****This is mandatory if you and your child have not been part of this production.***

Costume Production Team

We are looking for volunteer seamstresses or tailors to help with costumes for various performances that DF! will produce during the school year. The most immediate help is for The Steadfast Tin Soldier and then again in 2012 for the Fremont Danceworks Spring Concert and the year end Rite of Spring. We need help in varying levels—from cutting fabric to surging edges, alterations to sewing a complete costume. If you are able to help, please email Vivian Little at Vivian@dancefremont.com and she will be in contact with you immediately! Thank you for your support for DF! and our young performers!

Costume Sale For Fremont Danceworks

You're invited to a Dance Fremont fundraiser Costume Sale! Come mingle with other Dance Fremont families, sit in on an open STS rehearsal and try on some zany costumes just in time for Halloween!

*All proceeds will be donated towards the Fremont Danceworks Company!
 where: Dance Fremont Lobby & Sidewalk (weather permitting)
 when: Saturday, October 8, 10-4 p.m.
 Thank you for your support!*

Classroom Etiquette

Before Class

- ~Arrive at DF! well before class time. Students who arrive 15 minutes late will be asked to observe and take notes.
- ~Use restroom *before* or after class.
- ~Be well hydrated and nourished.
- ~Wait in lobby area prior to or between classes (dressing rooms are for dressing only, socialize in lobby).
- ~Follow Instructor or Assistant to and from Studio II.

During Class

- ~Maintain respectful posture.
- ~Wear no jewelry or watches (exception: small post earrings)
- ~Stay focused, pay attention to ALL corrections (your own and others').
- ~Consider corrections a compliment & be thankful.
- ~Don't let other students distract you.
- ~Don't talk unless instructor invites discussion.
- ~Raise hand to speak.
- ~Don't chew gum.
- ~Drink water at breaks (no water bottles on dance floor).
- ~Don't hang or lean on barres.
- ~Don't touch mirror or drapes.
- ~Work with a cooperative spirit.
- ~Thank instructor & accompanist at end of class.

After Class

- ~Dress and gather belongings quickly.
- ~Wait for your ride in lobby (not outside).
- Special notes: Students sitting out due to injury will observe class and take notes.*
- If unable to attend class, please call & notify the office.*



*New Observation Day Guidelines

1st Quarter Observation Dates: Nov. 7-12 ~ 2nd Quarter Observation Dates: Jan. 23-28

We invite parents and friends to observe your students progress at the end of each quarter. Because we have two classes happening simultaneously and we must travel through Studio I (larger studio) in order to get to Studio II (smaller studio), we would like for observers to please follow these guidelines to help make this a positive experience for all. Thank you!

- ***In order to respect the privacy of fellow students and intellectual property of musician and/or instructor/choreographer, we ask that you do not take photos or videotape during class. A special photo opportunity will be provided at the end of the class.**
- Please arrive early for the observation class so as not to disrupt the classes that have already begun.
- Street shoes must be left in the waiting area if you are observing in Studio II. Street shoes are not allowed on the dance floors.
- Please walk quietly through Studio I to get to and from Studio II so the students in Studio I may continue to hear their instructor and remain focused.



- If you have a younger child coming to watch, please discern whether he/she will be able to sit quietly during the class, otherwise please make arrangements for child care at that time.
- For all creative dance classes, the parents will be seated on the floor to observe. We will have folding chairs available for the elders and people needing back support.
- Be aware that some children do want to participate in class with many people watching and they may decide to sit out on this day. This is very normal behavior and we ask that you not force the issue.

Important Info About Tuition & Keeping Your Child's Spot in Class

We understand that people's interests or schedules might change, but please let us know if your child does not plan on continuing into the sequential quarter. If we don't hear from you, we will assume your student will keep his or her spot in class for the following quarter. **We do not mail statements.** We are doing our very best to update email addresses into groups according to the your child's class and will send out a reminder about observation week and tuition. We will also tell your child about observation week so if they tell you that it is coming up, it also means that tuition will be due. Tuition not paid by the first class of the new quarter will be considered late and a \$15 late fee will be added.