

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Here we go – it's recital week!

The excitement has grown since the theme announcement in early January, and we're finally here. The dancers and the faculty are all ready, and it's time to step onto the stage where the magic happens.

This letter should answer any loose ends, but please let me know if you still have questions.

All the very best, and see you at the theatre,

Briana Lynch

Artistic Director and VERY Proud Teacher

DRESS REHEARSAL ~ Monday, April 29th, Tuesday, April 30th and Friday, May 3rd

Dress Rehearsal is run at the E. L. Fox Auditorium in John Ross High School. Please use the student parking lot close to the sports fields and enter through the theatre doors at the side of the building or the entrance just off the parking lot at the rear. Please arrive **15 minutes early** – we run our rehearsals on time. Dancers should wear costumes, but full hair/make-up is not required. The dress rehearsal schedule is posted on our website: <http://guelphdance.com/recitals/>

NO CLASSES RUNNING DURING THE DRESS REHEARSAL AND SHOWS (except Wed. and Thurs.)

We do not run dance classes when we have dress rehearsals or shows (no classes Monday, April 29th, Tuesday, April 30th, Friday, May 3rd, or Saturday, May 4th). Wednesday and Thursday dancers, please note that you do have classes at the studio on May 1st and 2nd.

Classes will resume at the studio after the shows – Monday, May 6th for photo week.

CHANGING AT THE DRESS REHEARSAL

We do not have access to a specific changeroom during dress rehearsals. Dancers can use the washrooms outside the theatre, or because it will be very dark, dancers can change at the back of the theatre. Dancers are NOT permitted to use the lobby as a changing area.

FOOD AT THE DRESS REHEARSAL

E.L. Fox has a strict NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE THEATRE policy. This includes coffee (sorry!!). No food or drink is permitted inside the audience seating area. Dancers can bring food to eat while waiting for their stage time, but please use the lobby area outside of the theatre to sit and eat.

SHOW ORDER

The Show Order and the Quick Change list are posted on the bulletin board in our reception area. You can come in and take a photo to help plan your dancer's costume order.

PARKING AT THE THEATRE

There is parking at the student parking lot (sports fields) and staff parking lot (closer to Eramosa Drive). There is also parking on the street, but please adhere to all parking by-laws.

NEW CHANGING AREA – Large Gymnasium

This season, we will use the large gymnasium (close to the theatre) as our changing room area. We're excited to have more room for the dancers, washrooms/change rooms attached to the gym, and a space for dancers to rehearse.

“Screen Time” - Saturday, May 4th and Sunday, May 5th

- Volunteers and Assistants – please enter through the door off the student parking area. Volunteers and Assistants should arrive 45 minutes before the show
- Dancers and Audience – please use the **main theatre entrance located at the side of the building on Meyer Drive**. Doors open for the Audience and Dancers a half hour (30 minutes) before the show begins.

SHOWTIMES:

Saturday, May 4 th ~ JUNIOR SHOW = dancers and audience at 12:30 pm	Show starts at 1:00 pm
Saturday, May 4 th ~ SENIOR SHOW = dancers and audience at 4:30 pm	Show starts at 5:00 pm
Sunday, May 5 th ~ JUNIOR SHOW = dancers and audience at 12:30 pm	Show starts at 1:00 pm
Sunday, May 5 th ~ SENIOR SHOW = dancers and audience at 4:30 pm	Show starts at 5:00 pm

SHOW RUN TIME – LENGTH OF EACH SHOW

Saturday, May 4 th ~ JUNIOR SHOW = 1 hour and 26 minutes + short curtain call
Saturday, May 4 th ~ SENIOR SHOW = 1 hour and 24 minutes + short curtain call
Sunday, May 5 th ~ JUNIOR SHOW = 1 hour and 30 minutes + short curtain call
Sunday, May 5 th ~ SENIOR SHOW = 1 hour and 24 minutes + longer curtain call

PICK UP TIMES IF YOU ARE NOT ATTENDING THE SHOW

If you are dropping off and picking up your dancer, please use this chart as a guide for timing:

Saturday, May 4 th ~ JUNIOR SHOW = 2:40 pm pick up time
Saturday, May 4 th ~ SENIOR SHOW = 6:40pm pick up time
Sunday, May 5 th ~ JUNIOR SHOW = 2:40 pm pick up time
Sunday, May 5 th ~ SENIOR SHOW = 6:50 pm pick up time

You can wait in the lobby area for the show to conclude and then pick your dancer up from the large gymnasium – our new changing room area for 2024.

WHERE TO GET READY AND WHAT TO BRING TO THE SHOW

Dancers should get ready at home (hair and makeup) and wear their costumes to the theatre. We will have a pipe and drape “quick change” area set up for the dancers, and we will also have access to the gym’s change rooms and washrooms.

If your dancer is in more than one piece, make sure that you bring all the items they will need for their other dances, and put their names on EVERYTHING!!

We also encourage younger dancers to bring something with them to help pass the time while they are waiting backstage, preferably non-electronic. Toys, books, cards and dolls are perfect. We’ll have a colouring area set up with crayons (no markers) as well. So many memories are made in the changeroom; it’s one of the most exciting parts of the recital experience.

TAP SHOES IN THE CHANGING AREA

Tap dancers are not permitted to wear Tap shoes in the changing room area (they could mark the gym floor). The dancers will put on and remove their shoes in the hallway outside the gymnasium. We will help the younger dancers with this task.

NO FOOD IN CHANGEROOMS

The shows are shorter this season, and dancers will not need to eat backstage. Please send a water bottle with your dancer. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

TIPS FOR YOUNGER STUDENTS

- Make sure they eat before they arrive so they are not hungry while they wait
- Bring something to play with – dolls, puzzles, books
- Bring a blanket to sit on while waiting
- Younger groups will have their own volunteer (parent or dance assistant) who oversees them
- Bring a zip-up sweatshirt/sweater to wear if they get cold

DVDS

Bean Film will videotape and edit the Recital DVD again this year. DVD sales will be done online this season: beanfilm.com/tgad Pre-sale **DVDs will cost \$35.00 and \$40.00 after the show.** Blu-ray also includes a digital copy of both the Junior and Senior shows.

FLOWERS

We're delighted to confirm that Dancing Flowers will set up a booth to sell flowers at the recital again this season. You can pre-order a bouquet by using the website link: <https://www.thecommcementgroup.com/guelphacademyofdance/> Dancing Flowers will also have flowers for sale the day of the recital.

VOLUNTEERS

Again, thank you so much to the parents who volunteered throughout the show; we could not have done this without your generosity. Last week, you should have received an email outlining your role and instructions to help you navigate the position. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me before the show—once recital day arrives, I won't be able to help! Please arrive 45 minutes before the start of the show to be ready for all the fun to begin! Thank you again.

As always – if you have any questions, please ask! Your question will help me clarify the details with our dance community.

PHOTO WEEK + FINAL WEEK

Photo Week – Monday, May 6th – Saturday, May 11th. The dancers will have their professional photos taken in their costumes, have an opportunity to watch a video of their performance and shadow each other's dances. It is a highlight week they will not want to miss!

Final Week of Classes – Monday, May 13th – Saturday, May 18th. Join us for one final class together before the end of our 18th season.

RECITAL WEBSITE LINKS:

- General Recital Information: <http://guelphdance.com/recitals/>
- Dress Rehearsal Monday: <http://guelphdance.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Dress-Rehearsal-Monday-April-29th.pdf>
- Dress Rehearsal Tuesday: <http://guelphdance.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Dress-Rehearsal-Tuesday-April-30th.pdf>
- Dress Rehearsal Friday: <http://guelphdance.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Dress-Rehearsal-Friday-May-3rd.pdf>
- What you need for the show: <http://guelphdance.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/What-you-need-for-the-show-2024.pdf>
- OnStage Direct Recital Ticket Link: onstagedirect.com/theguelphacademyofdance