



# YMCA Dance Academy

## Fall/Winter Handbook 2022-23



08/01/2022

Thank you for enrolling your child into the YMCA Dance Academy Youth program! We are very excited to begin a new year of dance. During the next few months, your child will learn more than just dance steps. While developing skill and coordination is important, the YMCA prides itself on developing our youth using our four pillars. Each month we will focus on one of the following:

## **HONESTY, CARING, RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITY**

### **FEES**

- \$21/members and \$31/non-members per class (assistance available)
- Dance payments are due before the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. There is an option to pay for the entire session.
- Recital costume fee of **\$60** per class is due no later than October 7th, 2022. Costumes will NOT be ordered if we have not received costume fee payments.
- Assistance is available to members with income based memberships.
- There are **NO refunds** for costume fees once orders have been placed.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Monday, September 12 CLASSES BEGIN
- Monday, October 7th COSTUME FEE DUE
- October 10-13 STUDENTS MEASURED (Do NOT Miss)
- Saturday, November 12 DANCE PHOTOS
- Monday, December 12 DRESS REHEARSAL 4:30-7:30 PM (see tentative schedule)
- Thursday, December 15th RECITAL PERFORMANCE 6:00pm  
Ohnward Fine Art Center

### **STAY IN THE LOOP!**

Please keep yourself in the LOOP by checking your emails for updates and joining our Facebook group page: **Maquoketa YMCA Dance Program Parent Info Page** and “like” the YMCA page **Maquoketa Area Family YMCA**. Please feel free to call with any questions!

## **WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY**

When the Maquoketa School district has an early dismissal DUE TO WEATHER or cancels school DUE TO INCLEMENT WINTER WEATHER, the YMCA will NOT hold dance classes for that afternoon/evening. Occasionally, if a full day of school has been accomplished and the weather is questionable, it is up to the discretion of the Program Director to decide if classes will be in session for that particular evening. In most cases if school activities are canceled for an evening due to weather, the Y will opt to cancel as well. As such, we will announce on Facebook and attempt to make personal calls to the parents in that class. When in doubt, always call the YMCA for an update.

If there is a scheduled no school day on a dance day and the YMCA is OPEN, we conduct our classes as scheduled.

## **DRESS CODE**

Athletic wear is suitable for dance class. Leggings, shorts and appropriate tops are considered athletic wear. Athletic bras worn as tops are **not** acceptable for class.

## **Dance Shoes**

Dance shoes may be purchased at any retailer or may be found at second hand stores.

Poms- jazz shoes any color

Ballet - pink ballet shoes

Hip Hop 1 & Hip Hop 2- jazz shoes any color

\*Please contact the dance instructor with any questions.

**PICTURE DAY Saturday, November 12th** –Multipurpose Room YMCA

Below is the schedule for dance pictures with the Photography Mill. The time indicated for your child's group is the time you need to BE THERE, dressed and ready to have your photo taken. The times are approximate. Please attend even if you are not planning to purchase photos so we can have your child in the group shots. Order forms will be sent home prior to and available the day of the shoot.

\*\*Times are approximate and subject to CHANGE.

Ballet	1:00 pm
Hip Hop 2 (5:30 class)	1:20 pm
Tumbling	1:40 pm
Poms	2:00 pm
Hip Hop 1 (4:30 class)	2:20 pm

- ❖ Try on all costumes and accessories immediately when you get them
- ❖ Inform Director of any problems with sizing immediately
- ❖ Costumes should be wrinkle free
- ❖ Light make-up for picture day.
  - o Red lips, rosy cheeks, eye color, mascara, shadow, liner
- ❖ Hair is to be up in a high bun unless otherwise noted
- ❖ Examples of how the costumes should look with hair/makeup will be posted in the Facebook dance group page for your reference.

## **Costume Deposits**

In an effort to ensure that all costumes arrive in time for picture day, costume deposits **MUST** be paid no later than **October 7th**. Costume manufacturers do not accept cancellations or offer refunds therefore once costumes have been ordered, the YMCA does not offer costume fee refunds.

Parents or guardians accept full responsibility for all expenses, including surcharges and shipping if costumes are ordered late due to late payment of costume fee. The YMCA is not responsible for costumes not received in time for picture day or recital due to late payments.

## **Sizing/Alterations**

Each child will be measured individually to determine his/her proper costume size during the week of **October 10th**. Costumes are made in bulk and are **NOT** custom designed for each child so although rare, alterations may sometimes be needed. This is the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian. Please contact the director for recommendations.

## **Costume Distribution**

Costumes will be distributed when all outstanding balances for the fall dance season are paid in full. September-December dance tuition must be paid **PRIOR** to receiving costume.

## **Withdrawal**

No refunds will be made if a child is withdrawn from the dance program once costumes have been ordered and prior to the dance recital. Parents or guardians may pick up the purchased costume at the YMCA at the time of general costume distribution and up to 30 days after the performance.

Any costume that is not picked up during that time, will remain the property of the YMCA dance program.

*Costumes are ALWAYS age appropriate and of the highest possible quality.*

## Dress Rehearsal-Costumes Only

Monday, December 12th 5:00-8:00pm – Ohnward Fine Arts Center

Below is the **TENTATIVE** dress rehearsal schedule. We will run each dance on the stage to mark spacing and give the kids time to get used to the space. Times are approximate. Please bring ALL costumes, dancewear and accessories with you if your child has more than one dance.

### \*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- 5:00pm Ballet
- 5:30pm Hip Hop 2
- 6:00pm Tumbling
- 6:30pm Poms
- 7:00pm Hip Hop 1

## Recital tips

Recital time can be stressful for the parents, students and instructors. To help everyone have a better sense of security during this time, it is best to plan ahead and be prepared. On the next page is a checklist to remember for your child's performance day!

## Rehearsal/Recital Checklist

- o **Hair:** High bun unless otherwise noted.  
Do your child's hair at home but don't forget, just in case....
  - o Hairspray
  - o Hair ties and bobby pins
  - o Hair accessories
  - o Glitter
  - o Hair nets
- o **Make up:**  
Done at home. Heavy and dark for the stage so that the bright lights don't wash their faces out. Don't forget...
  - o Red lips (Products like Lipsense that won't come off on costumes is recommended)
  - o Blush- Color on the cheeks so that stage lights don't wash out
  - o Eyeshadow-browns are best for the stage
  - o Eyeliner and mascara
  - o NO jewelry except for post earrings.
- o **Costumes**

- o **Label all Costumes and Shoes!!!**

- o Costume (wrinkle free)
- o Tights (an extra pair couldn't hurt) and shoes
- o Undergarments (bras that don't show straps)
- o Hair accessories

- o **Entertainment**

There will be some down time backstage while the kids are waiting to be called to go onstage so bring QUIET things to keep your child entertained.

- o Coloring books
- o iPads, Phones, iPods with earbuds
- o Blanket to sit on backstage to keep your belongings in "your" area.
- o Water and snacks that are NOT messy (no Cheetos or sticky candy/drinks)



# Volunteer Form

The YMCA relies on the assistance of volunteers in many of our youth programs. Your children will benefit directly from the volunteer effort of our families and we hope that you will become a member of our pool of volunteers to help provide a high quality performance experience for your children. We encourage families to volunteer and welcome any contribution you are willing to make.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Childs Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check your area of interest:**

\_\_\_\_ **Food:** Donate baked item, water, snacks

\_\_\_\_ **Check in:** check in dancers as they arrive and direct to dressing room

\_\_\_\_ **Monitor:** Make sure only dancers/volunteers are backstage during show/Quiet during show

\_\_\_\_ **Dressing Room Mom:** Assist with costume changes and keep students quiet while waiting

\_\_\_\_ **OTHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

All **BACKSTAGE** volunteers will be able to watch their child's dance from the audience and do not have to purchase a ticket.

*Thank you!*