

STEPS AHEAD DANCE STUDIO



RECITAL HANDBOOK

2012



It's that time of year again!

Our Annual June Recital is well on its way, and we've been diligently planning on an exciting end to our 20th year. Our teachers and dancers are putting together the final details and we are almost ready for Showtime!

A dance recital is always an exciting time for a dancer, yet many may become stressed and overwhelmed about the experience. It is our goal at Steps Ahead to make his/her day as organized and exciting as possible.

Our recital depends on everyone's involvement to make it the success your child deserves. A recital is a team effort; every dancer, parent, and teacher play a key role in the success of the show. We cannot do it without you!

This handbook contains all the necessary information you will need to make your recital experience an enjoyable one.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the studio.

We thank you for the gift of your wonderful and talented children and look forward to working with you on this year's recital!

Yours Truly,
Steps Ahead



DRESS REHEARSAL

Participation is mandatory!

DATE: Wednesday, June 20, 2012
TIME: 5:00 PM
VENUE: Queensborough Community College Theater

Nursery dancers: arrive at Queensborough at 4:30 PM.
All other dancers: be prepared to dance by 5:30 PM.

The purpose of dress rehearsal is to familiarize our dancers with the theater surroundings, being on stage, spacing and to feel comfortable performing their dances. Lighting, music cues, entrances and exits are rehearsed for an organized and professional performance. The rehearsal gives the dancers an opportunity to get over some of the jitters that come with performing on stage and it is also a time for the staff to address any last minute concerns. Your dancer will perform better and have happier memories of his/her recital with the benefit of this rehearsal. Remember, a dance is a "team" effort. If one dancer is missing, it changes spacing or partner elements of the dance. **Please make every effort to attend.**

If you have planned to have someone other than yourself picking up your child from dress rehearsal, a written letter to your child's teacher will be needed in advance. This is done for your child's safety.

Each student is to remain in the theater during the rehearsal period. After your child performs, you are free to leave or he/she may join you to watch the remainder of the rehearsal.

We try to run an organized and timely dress rehearsal; your help and patience with the process will guarantee a professional production.



RECITAL PRE-PLANNING

The recital is not a one day activity. Start planning a week before the show. Gather all costumes, accessories, shoes, tights and makeup several days in advance so you will know if something is missing or isn't right.

Backstage at a dance recital is chaotic. In all the confusion, many parents find themselves rushing home for forgotten items, trying to make it back in time for the performance.

Review your checklist of your child's routines, costumes, tights, shoes and any accessories, and refer to it to make sure that you have all your supplies before going to the theater.

HANDY EXTRAS:

- Hairspray/Gel
- Hairpins and hair ties
- Baby wipes (to fix makeup mistakes or to wash hands)
- Baby powder (for itchy costumes)
- Safety pins (for emergency costume repairs)
- Clear nail polish (to repair any holes or runs in tights)
- Band-aids
- Q-Tips
- Hangers
- Snacks
- Camera (you will want to capture those candid backstage moments)

DON'T FORGET...
The best accessory is your BEAUTIFUL SMILE!
Don't leave it at home!



COSTUMES

- To ensure that there are no costume problems, students should not wear their costumes, accessories or tights prior to the recital.
- Many dancers in the same class are the same size. It is recommended that you put your child's name on all costumes, shoes, accessories, and tights.
- Hang costumes in a garment bag with your child's name on the outside.
- Press/steam all costumes prior to the performance.
- Please do not wash costumes in your washing machine.
- Tights are to be worn under your costume.
- All costumes pieces including shoes must be labeled with your child's name. If you child has more than one costume, please be sure that all pieces are packed in a bag labeled with child's name and phone number.
- Please leave all valuables at home! Remember, no jewelry or watches are to be worn by dancers.



2011 RECITAL INFORMATION

DATE: Sunday, June 24, 2012
TIME: 10:00 AM
1:00 PM
VENUE: Queensborough Community College Theater

GENERAL RECITAL PROCEDURE

- Dancers should arrive ONE HOUR prior to show time.
- Please make sure that your dancer eats a good breakfast in the morning.
- All dancers must come to the theater dressed in their first costume.
- Nursery Dancers: Parents, please escort your child backstage.
- All other dancers: Please enter through the front doors.
- At the end of the show, please wait for your child at the same drop off spot.
- No flowers, balloons or gifts of any kind are to be presented to your child while on stage.

Parents who have a child in the nursery classes listed below, will be issued one backstage pass to check on their child during the performance.

- Monday 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Tuesday 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
- Saturday 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
- Saturday 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
- Saturday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM



PERFORMANCE DAY

- Plan to arrive at the theater one hour before show time. You will need time to set up in a dressing room.
- Recital days can be extremely tiring for dancers. Pack a few quiet games, such as a deck of cards, to quietly pass the time.
- Only mothers with a pass will be permitted backstage during the performance or during intermission.
- Relax! Keep in mind that recitals only happen once a year. You will be excited and anxious, so just try to relax and enjoy your day.

BACKSTAGE

Family members and friends do not belong backstage or in the dressing rooms during the recital. The same applies during intermission and after the show. There is a lot of backstage activity in a limited amount space and dressing rooms are a private area. Please remind your family and guests to be respectful of dancers and of the areas. Those who wish to greet or present flowers to a performer after the show may do so in the lobby areas.

ROOM MOTHERS

A room mother holds the responsibility of all children in your assigned room, not just your own. (Hair, make-up, bathroom trips, etc.)

The continued success of our annual recital is very important to us. Without the help of **YOU**, the dedicated room mothers, we could not do what we do.

We appreciate your commitment to the students!



DRESSING ROOM ETIQUETTE

Dancers must respect other dancers' space and property in the dressing rooms. Students will spend more time in the dressing rooms than on stage, so please do your best to keep them organized and clean. Steps Ahead is not responsible for lost items.

Dancers must respect their chaperones, their peers, their teachers and their surroundings at all times. Proper behavior and etiquette will be expected. Please remind your dancers the importance of this!

FINALE

All performers are expected to stay for the finale, so please to not leave after your last performance.



SUMMER CLASSES

Steps Ahead is putting a new spin on our summer intensive program. The 2012 summer classes are designed to provide fun dance classes combined with an intensive experience of training.

Be a part of the experience and join us for some summer fun with all new events and guest celebrity teachers!

Summer dance programs will be held between the weeks of July 24, 2012 and August 27, 2012.

NEW NURSERY

Ages: 2 – 3
Week: July 24 – August 28
Day: Tuesdays
Time: 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

NURSERY 2

Ages: 3 – 4
Week: July 24 – August 28
Day: Tuesdays
Time: 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

BEGINNER COMBO CLASS

Ages: 4 – 5
Week: July 24 – August 28
Day: Tuesdays
Time: 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

ADVANCED COMBO CLASS

Ages: 5 - 7
Week: July 24 – August 28
Day: Tuesdays
Time: 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

YOUTH SUMMER DANCE INTENSIVE

Ages: 8 – 10
Week: August 6 – August 10
Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

OPEN CLASSES

Ages: Tween - Adult
Week: July 24 – August 28
Day: Tuesdays
Time: 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

**note: dance styles vary*

Offering hip-hop, funk jazz, contemporary & technique

**It's not too late to sign up!
Call the studio for further information**



Directions to Queensborough Community College

Directions from Long Island by Car using the Northern State Parkway or the Southern State Parkway:

Take either the Northern State Parkway west or the Southern State Parkway west to the Cross Island Parkway north. Once on the Cross Island Parkway north take the Long Island Expressway west exit. Once on the Long Island Expressway west, stay in the entrance lane and immediately exit to Springfield Boulevard (exit 29). At the traffic light turn right onto Springfield Boulevard, then turn right on to 56th Avenue. The main entrance of Queensborough Community College is one block away on the left-hand side.

Directions by Car using the Long Island Expressway East:

Take the Long Island Expressway east to Springfield Boulevard (exit 29). At the traffic light turn left onto Springfield Boulevard. Go straight until you reach 56th Avenue and make a right on to 56th Avenue. The main entrance of Queensborough Community College is one block away on the left-hand side.

Directions by Car using the Cross Island Parkway South:

Take either the Cross Island Parkway south to Northern Boulevard west (exit 31W). Merge onto Northern Boulevard and go straight until Springfield Boulevard. At the traffic light turn left onto Springfield Boulevard. Go straight until you reach 56th Avenue and make a left. The main entrance of Queensborough Community College is one block away on the left-hand side.

Directions from Midtown Manhattan & Western Queens by Public Transportation using the F or E train:

Take the F train to the 169th Street - Hillside Avenue station, or the E train to the Sutphin Boulevard/ Archer Avenue station. Transfer to the Q30 bus to Springfield Boulevard via Horace Harding Boulevard. Walk north on Springfield Boulevard to 56th Avenue and turn right to campus.

Directions from Midtown Manhattan & Western Queens by Public Transportation using the number 7 train:

Take the number 7 train to the Flushing – Main Street station. Transfer to the Q27 bus to Queensborough Community College or transfer to the Q12 bus to Cloverdale Boulevard & Northern Boulevard.

Please note: The Q27 bus stops on campus from 7 am to 11 pm on weekdays. Limited-Stop buses stop at Springfield Boulevard and 56th Avenue.

Long Island Rail Road:

Option #1 - Take the LIRR to Queens Village Station. Transfer to the Q27 bus going north via Springfield Boulevard to Queensborough Community College.

Option #2 - Take the LIRR to Bayside Station. Transfer to the Q31 bus going south to 48th Avenue and Bell Boulevard. Transfer to the Q27 bus to Queensborough Community College.

Please note: The Q27 bus stops on campus from 7 am to 11 pm on weekdays. Limited-Stop buses stop at Springfield Boulevard and 56th Avenue.