



November 2019 Newsletter

A Word from our Artistic Directors:

Creating Student Choreography

Children move naturally and for many reasons. Movement can be functional to achieve daily tasks, it can express a thought or feeling, or be done because it is joyful and feels wonderful. When a child's movement becomes consciously structured and is performed with awareness for its own sake, it becomes dance. In the Performance program the students have many opportunities to create their own choreography. Creating in a dance class helps children mature **physically** by teaching patterns, coordination and kinesthetic memory, **emotionally** by giving students the opportunity to express themselves while gaining an awareness of oneself and others, **socially** by fostering communication and collaboration in a group setting and **cognitively** by finding movement solutions to a presented problem, fostering numeracy development or understanding an action response dynamic.

Each month dancers focus on a different structure for creating curriculum. In September we used a circle dance and story for structuring a dance. In October we explored poems and bringing these to life with movement.

In November and December we will use poems and an ABC (suite) form to create dance pieces.

Our older dancers will learn the art of Music Mapping – listening to a piece of music and breaking it into sections counting the numbers of bars or musical phrases in the piece. They will then analyze the dynamics of the music to decide on appropriate movement sequences to match.

Weekly opportunities for our dancers to create their own works of art is essential to creating a well-rounded dancer. Talk to your dancer about the creative process they experienced in class each week. Giving your child the opportunity

to talk about and reflect on their experience will not only help you understand what they are working on in class but will help your child solidify their learning.

November/December Dance Concepts: Level and Focus

Over the next month our dancers will be exploring the concepts of Level and Focus

Movement can exist on three different levels:

High: movement that happens above the shoulders

Middle: movement that happens between shoulders and hips

Low: movement that happens below the hips

Dancers use focus in different ways for different purposes when they dance:

Single (direct) focus: viewing one person or object, or having a single or direct intention with the body or a body part.

Multi (indirect) focus: viewing several people or objects. Focus and movement may be scattered.

We will spend the month creating Winter inspired dance pieces to perform for you at our next sharing day. Be sure to look for examples of space and place, size and reach and level and focus in your child's winter piece!

Winter Slush

Please help keep our studio floor as clean as possible for our little dancers by removing your wet boots near the door and placing them on the rack. We are doing our best to keep the carpets where our little dances line up as dry as possible so their ballet shoes do not get wet. Our studio staff works very hard to keep the studio clean for everyone. Please remember that benches are for bums only, to clean up any snack mess that may have been made and take all your water bottles, hats, mitts etc. home with you after class. If everyone does their part it will help to keep our lobby area tidy for the class coming in after you.

Administrative Reminders

- **Classes will run as usual during the school systems November break.** We understand some schools have a fall break however our classes will run as normal.
- **Remembrance Day – November 11th,** Our Studio will be closed until Noon so that everyone can partake in Remembrance Day Ceremonies, however all classes from noon-close will be running classes as usual.
- **With the snowy, wet season coming up we ask that you please remove all outdoor footwear on the first two mats and place them on the Blue Studio or Purple Studio shoe racks.** Because we have so many little dancers in bare feet or dance slippers on the tile we would like to keep the floor as clean as possible. Please **do not** put outdoor shoes in the bench cubbies as these are meant for bags and other personal items.
- **Please check the Lost and Found (located under bench in the lobby) for any personal belongings.** We have a growing collection of water bottles, dance shoes, socks, etc. Any items not claimed by the end of the each month will be recycled or donated.
- **For families on our payment plan your last installment will be charged on November 15.** If your credit card number has changed or is expired please contact us prior to the 15th so we can update your account.

Upcoming Key Dates

Winter Sharing Days

Class sharing day gives your child the opportunity to show you what they have been working on in class. **Photos and videos are allowed on sharing days.** As such no nametags will be worn during these classes.

Siblings are welcome to join you but please keep in mind they will have to sit in the audience area in the studio during the sharing. Please do not bring electronic games into your child's class sharing as they are very disruptive to the dancers and the audience.

We ask that all adults in attendance remember they are modeling good audience etiquette to our young dancers. Please turn off the sound on all electronic

devices and keep talking between families in the audience to a minimum. Our dancers and teachers appreciate respectful audience behavior 😊

All sharings will be the last 30 minutes of the class.

Sharing day is the last class prior to Winter Break.

Sharing days are as follows:

Tuesday classes December 10*

Wednesday classes: December 11

Thursday classes: December 12

Friday classes: December 13

Saturday classes: December 14

Sunday classes: December 15

Monday classes December 16

•Youth Contemporary sharing date and venue TBA

All classes will be on Winter Break December 17-January 3.

Classes will resume Saturday January 4, 2020.

Looking Ahead:

Costume Fitting Week: January 17-23. Please plan to attend the first 15 minutes of your child's class to assist them with trying on their recital costume as well as receiving directions on costuming and hair requirements for recital.

There will also be an important parent meeting regarding recital details following the fitting time with Ms Chantel for each class.

Primary Recital Ticket Sale Night: Friday January 24th 7pm-9pm at J'Adore.

More information regarding this can be found under the Recital Information in the Parent Documents and details will be reviewed during your class' parent meeting following your costume fitting.

Primary Recital tickets will once again be on sale AT THE STUDIO. Tickets are limited to the number you provided at the first class in round one. Remaining tickets will be available first come first serve. Recital Ticket sales will be cash only (\$20/ticket inclusive of all service fees and taxes).

Tickets will be on sale Friday January 24th from 7:00-9:00.

SAVE THE DATE!

Junior Recital (JBallet®, JHop® and JTap® Levels 1-3 (JTap® 4)

February 22 – more information can be found in the parent handbook on the website

Senior Recital (JBallet®, JHop® and JTap® Levels 4-Youth)

March 13-14 – more information can be found in the parent handbook on the website

Questions/Concerns/Comments?

Please contact Ms Chantel (Chantel@jadoredance.com) with any questions, concerns, or comments regarding the Full Year Performance Programs.

Please contact the front desk (info@jadoredance.com) with any questions or concerns related to dancewear, payments or absences.