



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca



MARSHALLTOWN YMCA-YWCA

Miss Kimberlee Kups-Benson

Dance Director/Owner

thedancekonnection@gmail.com

YMCA-YWCA SCHOOL OF DANCE: THE DANCE KONNECTION 2022-2023 NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2022 SOUTE NEWS

Welcome Back to Dance!!! We are so excited to have you help celebrate our 33rd year of dance.

Classes started the week of August 22nd-Marshalltown.

This is a great month here at the studio. We get the chance to renew friendships from last year and make new ones with students just joining our dance family. Finding out who is in your classes. Reinventing you into the dancer that is deep inside after a summer break. Finding out who your student teachers and assistants are for your classes. (Please check out our web site and learn a little more about our staff at www.thedancekonnection.com.) Setting goals for yourself and your classes. It's a new beginning. Can't wait to see what the year will bring.....

!!!!Please read the entire news letter. There is a lot of information included in all the monthly news letters and if you just skim you will miss something!!!!

News Letters will be emailed at least once a month. Sometimes we will email additional things that come up during the dance month. There will also be hard copies of newsletter in the bins outside the dance rooms and posted on our website.

Remember to check our web site. www.thedancekonnection.com. We will be updating it regularly. You can also check us out on Facebook if you are registered. Just search for The Dance Konnection! And The Dance Konnection business page, Twitter The Dance Konnection @TheDKdance & on Instagram @TheDanceKonnection

Feel free to email me with questions or concerns. You may email me at my work email: thedancekonnection@gmail.com or kimi.kups-benson@ymca-ywca.org. I may use either one to send you correspondence. If you need to call the office the number is 641-752-8658 ext. 304. Our main source of communication is by email. If you are not receiving emails and would like to, please contact the dance office and we will add you to our list. If you know of someone who is not receiving emails from us let them know that they may also call the office to be added to the list. We also have a studio group message system, if you would be interested in receiving these text messages email the dance office for the link.

Dates To Remember:

August 3rd 6-8PM- New Student Registration

August 4th 6-8PM- Returning Student Registration

August 21- Nutcracker Auditions- Ames

Week of Aug. 22- Classes Begin

August 26 & 27- Nutcracker Auditions - Iowa Dance Theatre

September 5- No Dance (Labor Day)

September 24- Oktoberfest Parade

October 6 at 7:30PM- Christmas Extravaganza Meetings

November 1- 1st Costume Payment DUE

November 14-17- Parent Viewing Week

November 23-27- Thanksgiving Break

December 4- Christmas Extravaganza

December 5-8- Bring A Grown Up To Dance Week

December 12-15- Christmas Parties in Class

December 19-January 1- No Dance - Merry Christmas

January 2- Classes Resume

January 15- Final Costume Payment DUE

February 10- Tights/Accessories Forms and Money DUE

April 10-13- Parents Viewing Week 2

April 21- Dance Pictures

TBA- Tumble Tots Demo.

TBA- KaMotion Recital & Acro Demonstration

Recital Dress Rehearsal- April 30th- May 4th, 2023

May 5th & 6th- Recital

Continues next page — use "Continues next slug" style

Some clarifications:

Reminder that all monthly payments for dance classes that your student is taking that are paid to the Marshalltown YMCA-YWCA are now on a monthly auto pay system and will be drafted from the account (checking, savings or credit card) that you provided when you turned in your dance registration sheet. If you have not turned in your account information for monthly drafting please contact Ashley Nelson immediately at 641-752-8658 ext 302 or email ashley.nelson@ymca-ywca.org. If you choose to pay for the entire dance year in full that needs to be done the first week of dance starting August 23 please contact Ashley Woodruff at 641-752-8658 or email ashley.nelson@ymca-ywca.org.

All other payments need to come to the dance office outside the studios upstairs at the Cultural Center. These payments are for EVERYTHING BUT tuition. (shoes, costumes, accessories, gifts, etc.) These payments need to be made out to "The Dance Konnection". There is a payment basket located on the desk in the dance office, please put all forms & payments in this basket. Do not leave checks or cash on the computer desk

August 1st 2021, the YMCA YWCA will only offer scheduled payments for Youth Programming. All payments must now be drafted from a checking, savings, or credit card account. Dance tuition payments are due on the first of each month unless paid in full at the start of classes. An electronic method of billing must be completed and returned in order to attend. Accounts must be kept current in order to attend dance classes at the Y. A \$30 service charge will be applied to accounts for any returned payments due to nonsufficient funds. Participants will be notified at the time of returns. Participants have 30 days to take care of any returned payments and NSF fees. If past due balances and fees are not paid after 60 days, participants will be dropped from dance classes. It is the card/account holder's responsibility to inform the Y of any changes in billing methods.

The Dance Konnection does send out statements on the 1st of each month. If the balance of your account is not paid in full, a late fee of 3% will be charged on the 20th of each month. We accept cash or checks only, NO CREDIT CARDS! But you can go on your parent portal and pay through there.

PLEASE NOTE If you have questions about shoes, dancewear, payments, statements, etc. you will HAVE to wait until someone is in the dance office to help you. Please don't interrupt the dance classes. Once the attention is lured away from the teacher it is very hard to get the students to focus again. Thank you for your cooperation.

Shoes are coming in daily. Please check with the dance office and we will get them for you. There are no refunds only exchanges. **Some shoes may be on backorder, but as soon as I get them I will hand them out and an email will also be sent to you.

****Please Note:** I don't take used shoes. If you want to sell them you may post a note on the bulletin board outside the dance studio. Please do not leave notes or used dance shoes in my office.

****Christmas Show-A Note For All The New Parents**

Our Christmas show will be at the MHS Auditorium as of right now.

A Homemade Christmas- Our Christmas show will be on Sunday December 4th from 1:00 until 4:00 in the afternoon at the MHS Auditorium.

****Christmas Show-** We need lots of help from parents in order to pull both Christmas shows together. We will have our first meeting on Thursday, October 6th at 7:30 p.m. We will meet upstairs at the Cultural Center in Conference Room #205. Many hands make light work so come join us to help with the planning!!

Christmas Show t-shirt... We will soon have order forms for t-shirts available in the waiting area of the studio and on the website with our Christmas show logo on them. Just a WARNING!!!! They will be due when they are due and **not a day later**. I will not be ordering extras. So get them in early. I will be ordering them the day after they are due. These places are very busy around Christmas so we are on a limited time table. \$1.00 from each t-shirt sold will be given to a charity that the Christmas Show Committee will choose. We will let you know which charity has been selected after the decision is made. So what a great way to give plus you get a cute shirt too!!! You will be able to purchase your Christmas t shirts using either your parent portal or in the dance office.

Nutcracker Auditions!!!

The Ames Production of the Nutcracker is holding auditions on Sunday August 21st at CY Stephens Auditorium. Please contact the Robert Thomas Dancenter in Ames at 515-233-0826 for more details. You can also find information online at www.rtdance.com

Iowa Dance Theatre Nutcracker auditions are August 26th and 27th at Pioneer Columbus! Receive more information at www.iowadancetheatre.org and clicking on auditions.

Attention Monday 4:00, Monday 4:45, Monday 5:30, Tuesday 4:00, Tuesday 4:45, Tuesday 5:30, Wednesday 5:00, Wednesday 5:45, Thursday 5:00 classes. There is a whiteboard that is located outside of the dance room, this will list the first shoes that each elementary class will need to have on prior to entering their dance class for the week.

Please check on the white board outside the dance room as to what shoes we will start with for each class.

All Boys Class *This class is in addition to being enrolled in regular dance class. Each of the Boys classes will meet weekly, Boys (3-8yrs old)- Studio 3 on Thursdays 5:45-6:30pm & Boys (9 & up)-Studio 4 on Mondays 8:15-9:00pm. This is a great class for your male dancers to be with other boys who dance and learn just "boys" routines. This will be a jazz based class and all levels are welcome. There is still time to register!*

Dance Objective of the month- Review and renew!!

Reminder All Dancers must have their hair in bun or pony tail. All shoes must have their names in them. No gum or candy in the dance room. You must follow the dress code for your classes. Please take your little dancers to the restroom before they come to dance class.

Dance Journals- We started doing this program last year with some of the dancers and it was a great success. We are now asking that all Jazz 1-9, Ballet 1-5, Pointe 1-4, and Tap 1-7 dancers to have a "Dance" journal in their dance bags and a pen. We use them to write choreography, words of encouragement, thoughts, goals all sorts of things. It helps the dancers remember steps and be uplifted when they may have had a rough rehearsal. You can use an old notebook, a diary or a journal. They can decorate them. They can glue pictures of dancers or anything dance on them. It is also a great remembrance to look back on.

Private Lessons- if your dancers are interested in doing private lessons this year please contact me and we will set up a time. Contact Miss Kimi at kimi.kups-benson@ymca-ywca.org

Prodigy Class: This is not actually a class that your dancer will need to attend on Saturdays as stated on your dance confirmations that were sent out to you, we just merely need to put a day down in our computer. The Prodigy Program is our new accelerated learning program. This is open to all dancers who are serious about their dance education. If your dancer is enrolled in 4 or more dance classes at the studio, you are automatically in Prodigy. *Example: You are taking Jazz, Tap, Pilates and Pointe. This makes you part of the program. All dance classes at the Marshalltown YMCA-YWCA School of Dance are included (except Competition Team and KK Dancers). You must be on the roster. The extra ballet class you have to take for Pointe 1-4 are included. Those are part of the requirement to be in Pointe. If you are enrolled in Ballet and Pointe, then both classes count toward the four necessary classes to make you a Prodigy. What are the benefits of the Prodigy Program? The program entitles you to discounted rates for workshops and events held at the Marshalltown YMCA-YWCA School of Dance. There will be free extra class offerings only open to Prodigy Students along with discounted or free dancewear or items. Field trips to see dance shows or ballets may also be planned. We are very excited about this new program. If you have in questions please feel free to contact Miss Kimi.

Parent/Tot Class: This class is geared towards toddlers, 18 months to 3 year olds, and the special adult in his or her life. It is designed to help students feel comfortable learning in a group setting. Activities will include dance games, playing instruments, and singing songs while having fun together. Learn new and creative ways to enjoy music and dance. This class will be in three 6 week sessions.

Reminder! PARENT PORTAL INFORMATION!!! We have taken the leap into technology! You have each been emailed individually a parent portal, if you have not received this via email please email the office and we can resend it to you. On the parent portal you can see what you owe on your Dance Konnection account (NOT the Y for regular classes), order shoes/dance wear on line, your dancers attendance in class, see your DK statements, add another parent or contact to your account/ update your information (such as address or phone number), add a photo of your dancer to their profile so the teacher knows exactly what they look like, teachers may share class notes or homework for your dancer. You can still order shoes and dance wear from the office which really is a safer bet! If you order through our on line store you will have to pay via pay pal. Which you can pay with your credit card or pay pal account but it will be via pay pal. There is a 3% convenience fee added to on line orders. Plus if you order the incorrect item and/or size you will be charged a \$10.00 restocking fee. If you go to the office and order there is no convince fee and if the wrong item or size is ordered it will just be our regular exchange policy. So if you are unsure order in the office!!! We will not be taking credit card payments or pay pal payments in the office right now but that will be coming. So all office orders will still be check/money order or cash.

Costume Deposit Policy-Reminder: Per your signed registration paperwork below are the following costume deposit changes. **Primary classes; preschool& elementary Ballet & tap combination classes have a one time \$80 (plus tax), total due will be \$85.60 on November 1st. Dancers in any leveled classes (1-8) dancers taking more than one leveled class have a \$110 deposit due November 1st with remaining balance due on January 15th.** Dancers taking only one leveled class have an \$90 deposit due November 1st with the remaining balance due January 15th. **All costume fees are non-refundable.**

Our Online Store- Our online store thru your parent portal is live. You can order dancewear, tights, and shoes online. Please remember if we have to exchange sizes you will be charged a restocking fee (only if you, parents, order the shoes online through your parent portal). If you are unsure of your dancers size please stop into the office and we will be happy to place the order for you.

You can also order dancewear through Nimbley, which you can get to through our website.

Make sure you step in the office to get your FREE car air freshener while supplies last!

We like to recognize everyone's birthdays in the newsletter. If you don't see your name and it should be on the list, please let us know so we may add your birthday to our records. Below we have June through August birthdays!!!!

June Birthdays: Happy Birthday to....

Ilze Serrano	Bennett Ricken	Kambree Reed	Alexander Elliott	Ella Reynolds
Violet Dent	Reagan Miller	Kennedy Fisher	Layla Buschbom	Collins Grant
Savannah Piper	Nora Appelgate	Genevieve Wheeler	Adele Beek	Rylee Jones
Adelaide Hogan	Aria Peck	Elliana Wahl	Avnie Dalal	Paizlee Kelly
Scarlett Cordova	Layla Wimberly	Madelyn Brown	Ariana Mia Nunez	
Evania Ibarra-Madriral				

July Birthdays: Happy Birthday to....

Addisen Benson	Danielle Mashek	Katelynn Hagen	Gwen Tichy	Alydia Minkel
Camila Ortega	Jeanette Wolfe	Oliver Krasnovsky	Kaegan Minkel	Hattie Kell
Katherine Villeda	Ava Schutt	Kennedy Roseland	Camden Boydstun	Zoey Pals
Camila Ramirez	Quinlan Pals	Roslin Birkenholtz	Zoey Goble	Izaak Amaya
Brooklyn Kendall	Emma Bradbury	Jessica Toe	Gwendolyn Roenfeldt	

August Birthdays: Happy Birthday to....

Lydia Speas	Hendrix Edwards	Molly Havens	Addison Daters	Adrian Garcia
Bailey Garland	Payton Pietig	Hallie Monroe	Olivia Eilers	Harper Minter
Isla Maher	Anabelle Roenfeldt	Lauren Krasnovsky	Briley Wildman	Remington Bueghly
Wynn Clark	Peyton Mann	Quinn Gerstandt	Phoebe Bowers	Kendall Messer
Amelia Goble	Brooklynn Hazen	Pepper Scheid	Anastasia Elliott	Olivia Wheaton
Avery Buschbom				

Studio Schedule

Mondays Schedule:

4:00-4:45- 7-8 year old- Studio 1/2
4:45-5:30- 3-4 year old- Studio 1/2
5:00-5:30- Tumble Tots- Studio 5
5:30-6:15- 5-6 year old- Studio 3
5:30-6:30- Jazz 5- Studio 1/2
5:30-6:30- Jazz 4—Studio 4
6:15-7:15- Acro 1/2- Studio 5
6:30-7:15- Tap 4- Studio 2
6:30-7:30- Modern 3- Studio 4
7:15-8:15- Ballet 4 (Pre-Pointe)- Studio 2
7:15-8:30- Pointe 1 - Studio 3
7:30-8:15- Musical Theatre 1—Studio 4
8:15-9:00- Boys Class (Ages 9 & up)-Studio 4

Tuesdays Schedule:

4:00-4:45- 3-4 Year Old—Studio 2
4:30-5:30- Acro 1/2—Studio 5
4:45-5:30- Ka-Motion 1—Studio 4
4:45-5:30- 4-5 Year Old—Studio 2
5:30-6:15- 5-6 Year Old—Studio 1/2
5:30-6:15- Ka-Motion 2— Studio 4
5:30-6:15- Modern 1/2—Studio 1/2
6:15-7:15- Acro 3/4—Studio 5
6:15-7:00- Musical Theatre 2—Studio 1/2
6:15-6:45- Parent Tot Dance—Studio 3
6:15-7:00- Tap 3—Studio 3
6:45-7:30-Dancer’s Conditioning—Studio 1
7:00-7:45- Clogging 1/2—Studio 3
7:00-7:45- Jazz 3—Studio 4
7:15-8:15- Acro 5—Studio 5
7:45-8:45- Ballet 3—Studio 4
8:15-9:15- Ballet Technique—Studio 1/2

Wednesdays Schedule:

4:00-5:00- Ballet 1—Studio 2
5:00-5:45- 4-5 Year Old—Studio 3
5:00-5:45- Jazz 1—Studio 1/2
5:00-5:45- PBT—Studio 4
5:45-6:30- Clogging 3—Studio 4
5:45-6:30- 7-8 Year Old—Studio 3
5:45-6:30- Tap 1—Studio 2
6:30-7:30- Ballet 5—Studio 3
6:30-7:45- Pointe 3 -Studio 4
7:15-8:15- Ballet Technique—Studio 3
7:30-8:15- Tap 6—Studio 4
7:45-8:30- Tap 7—Studio 1/2
8:15-9:15- Jazz 7—Studio 4
8:30-9:45- Jazz 8—Studio 3

Thursdays Schedule:

4:00-5:00- Acro 1/2—Studio 5
5:00-6:00- Acro 5—Studio 5
5:00-5:45- 5-6 Year Old—Studio 3
5:00-6:00- Ballet 2—Studio 4
5:00-6:00- Dancer’s Conditioning—Studio 2
5:45-6:30- Boys Class (3-8 Year olds) - Studio 3
6:00-7:00- Acro 3/4—Studio 5
6:00-7:00- Pointe 2—Studio 1/2
6:00-6:45- Jazz 2—Studio 4
7:00-8:00- Jazz 6—Studio 1/2
6:45-7:30- Tap 2—Studio 4
8:00-8:45- Tap 5—Studio 1/2