



Please keep this newsletter in a safe place. It contains important information.

Dear Dance Factory Families,

It's December, which means holiday cheer is filling the air! It's the most wonderful, and perhaps the busiest, time of year! **Don't forget – Holiday Observation at the studio begins next week!**

This newsletter contains important information about upcoming events at the studio. **Please be sure to read and hold on to this packet as we have many events and important dates coming up.**

Dance Factory Calendar 2022-2023

| | |
|--|--|
| Holiday Observation: | Monday, December 12 th – Saturday, December 17 th <i>(details on page 2)</i> |
| STUDIO CLOSED: | Dec. 18 th – Jan. 2 nd Happy Holidays! <i>(Classes resume January 3rd)</i> |
| Audition Workshop: | Saturday, January 7 th @ 3-5pm <i>(Registration required; details on page 3)</i> |
| Showstopper Auditions: | Sunday, January 8 th @ 1-4:45pm <i>(Registration required; details on page 3)</i> |
| STUDIO CLOSED: | Monday, January 16 th MLK Day Observance |
| STUDIO CLOSED: | April 10 th – April 15 th Happy Spring! <i>(Classes resume April 17th)</i> |
| Run with Rotary: | April 30 th @ 8am-1pm <i>(Performance opportunity! Details on page 5)</i> |
| Picture Day: | Sunday, May 21 st @ 9am-12pm <i>(details to be provided in April 2023)</i> |
| STUDIO CLOSED: | May 27 th – May 29 th Memorial Day <i>(no regular classes)</i> |
| Regular Class (at Studio): | Monday, June 5 th |
| Dress Rehearsal (Patriots Theater): | June 7 th – June 9 th <i>(no regular classes at the studio this week)</i> |
| Recital (Patriots Theater): | Saturday, June 10 th <i>(2pm and 5pm shows)</i> |
| Recital Video/Awards Week: | Monday, June 12 th – Saturday, June 17 th <i>(during regular class times)</i> |
| Registration for 2023-2024*: | Thursday, June 22, 2023 @ 8am-11am and 5pm-7pm |
| | <i>*2023-2024 Class Placement Recommendations will be sent by e-mail before registration day.</i> |
| Summer Tour Team 2023: | July 24 th -28 th <i>(details on page 5)</i> |

Intensive Program Dancers - Mark your calendars! Dancers in the Intensive Program* are required to take at least 1 week of a Summer Dance Intensive. Spots are first come, first serve so check your calendars now for your available week! [Click here for the registration form.](#)

- June 26-29, 2023: Summer Intensive Camp Week 1 Option
- August 21-24, 2023: Summer Intensive Camp Week 2 Option

***The Dance Factory Intensive Program** is a recommendation-only program developed for students looking for a more serious and rigorous dance program. It is a curriculum-based program designed for the dedicated dance student. Students are placed into class levels based on experience, technique, and skill. Students are required to take a minimum number of classes per week including ballet classes. Students must comply with the course requirements specific to each level.



the Dance Factory



December 2022 Newsletter

Holiday Observation (December 12th – 17th)

At the studio during regular class time

Families are invited into the studio to view their dancer's progress and see what their classes have been working on! The dancers work very hard to prepare for this day, please be generous with your applause and don't forget your camera! **Family & friends who cannot join in person are welcome to join via Zoom! See page 6 of this newsletter for class Zoom codes.** This will be a fun day for everyone so please try to attend.

2022 Holiday Drive

This year we will be hosting a Holiday Drive in support of Safe+Sound Somerset (<https://safe-sound.org/>). Gift cards for Amazon, Walmart, Target, ShopRite, and Visa (any amount) will be accepted in our tuition box during Holiday Observation week.

We thank you in advance for your help and support in making the holiday season special for the clients of Safe+Sound Somerset. Because of you and your generosity, survivors of domestic abuse and their families can look forward to a brighter holiday season.



MERCH ALERT! Visit our boutique for the perfect holiday gifts! We are fully stocked with new leotards and will be selling **brand-new 2023 Recital logo crewneck sweatshirts** during Holiday Observation! We have a **limited quantity** of the Recital sweatshirts so don't miss out on purchasing your own or buying one as a gift for your dancer!

Congratulations 2022 Holiday Tour Team Dancers!



This past weekend, The Dance Factory's 2022 Holiday Tour Team performed a spirited holiday routine at six local nursing homes, bringing joy to the residents, staff, and visitors.

We are so proud of their hard work!

[Check out more photos and video of our 2022 Holiday Tour Team on our DF Facebook Page!](#)





2023 Dance Factory Recital

The finale for our dance season will culminate with our end of the year recital. **We are proud to announce our 2023 Recital theme:**

23 Sleepless Nights !

The Recital will be held on Saturday, June 10th at Patriots Theater at the War Memorial (Trenton, NJ). There will be 2 shows: 2pm and 5pm. Each class will perform once in one show.

Dress Rehearsal at the Theater is June 7th – June 9th. Preparations

are underway and details on the Recital, Dress Rehearsal dates/times and the upcoming schedule of events will be available within the coming months.



****If you are aware of any school-related conflicts on June 7th, 8th, or 9th, please let us know before April 1st (dancefactory1@gmail.com).***

Costume/Recital Fee

The costume/recital fee is \$150 per dance class. The costume/recital fee includes a costume with accessories, theater rental, stage hands, backstage help, lighting design, insurance, NJ state trooper security at all times, props, scenery, and the show programs. Other than appropriate recital tights and dance shoes, you should not have any other expenses. Each class will perform one dance and need only one costume.

HALF OF THE RECITAL FEE IS DUE DECEMBER 15TH. This is non-refundable and was charged to your account/reflected in your December bill that was recently sent to all families by email.

The second half of the recital fee will be due on January 15th and will be charged to accounts on your January statement.

NOTE: Recital fees are only charged to accounts in December and January and were not included if you registered for classes before December. For this reason, even if you paid in full at the start of the year, you will still owe the costume/recital fee (\$150/class) when they are billed to accounts in December/January.

All accounts are automatically charged a recital fee per class. **If you will not be participating in the recital, you must let us know, by e-mail (dancefactory1@gmail.com), by December 15th.**

TICKETS

Each family will receive 5 recital tickets that are redeemable for either show time but **can only be used once.** Dancers, backstage helpers, and Dancing Dads will not need a ticket. Additional tickets may be purchased at \$20/ticket during ticket week at the studio (more details to be provided in 2023).



December 2022 Newsletter

2023 Showstopper Auditions & Audition Workshop

The Showstopper Dance Company is a team of high-caliber, well-respected performers from the Dance Factory Intensive Program*. Showstoppers perform in both recital shows! **We will hold 2023 Showstopper auditions on January 8th, 2023 and an Audition Workshop will be offered on January 7th** (audition and workshop information can be found below).

***Eligibility: The following classes are eligible to audition for the 2023 Showstopper Dance Company—**
Jazz Classes: Wednesday 3:45-4:45pm, Wednesday 8:15-9:15pm, Thursday 6:15-7pm, and Friday 5:15-6:15pm; **Tap Classes:** Tuesday 8:15-9pm and Thursday 8:30-9:15pm; **Funk classes:** Thursday 4:30-5:30pm, Friday 3:45-4:30, Friday 6:15-7pm.

The FINAL 2023 Showstopper Contract and Schedule can be found here

Please review the final Showstopper contract and schedule (at the above link), including rehearsal guidelines and Showstopper parent requirements. There have been a few modifications to rehearsal times since the sample contract was sent out. **This is the final schedule and no further changes will be made.** If you are selected and choose to participate in the 2023 Showstopper Dance Company, all rehearsals are mandatory with no exceptions.

Audition Workshop – Saturday, January 7th (3-5pm)

Don't miss out on this opportunity! Brush up on your performance skills. This workshop will be Jazz-based.

Workshop Cost = \$35; Checks (payable to Kelly McDermott) can be dropped in the waiting room tuition boxes or PayPal to keliack11106@aol.com or Venmo to @Kelly-Stretch

Advanced registration for Audition Workshop required by Jan. 5th using sign up link:

<https://forms.gle/NtSPdUvictDVyXh59>

Showstoppers Auditions – Sunday, January 8th

Showstoppers Auditions Schedule: Jazz: 1:00-2:30pm; Hip-Hop: 2:45-3:45pm; Tap: 4:00-4:45pm

***The following classes are eligible to audition for the 2023 Showstopper Dance Company—**
Jazz Classes: Wednesday 3:45-4:45pm, Wednesday 8:15-9:15pm, Thursday 6:15-7pm, and Friday 5:15-6:15pm;
Tap Classes: Tuesday 8:15-9pm and Thursday 8:30-9:15pm; **Funk classes:** Thursday 4:30-5:30pm, Friday 3:45-4:30, Friday 6:15-7pm.



Audition Cost: We will be accepting gift cards in support of Safe+Sound Somerset (<https://safe-sound.org/>). Gift cards for Amazon, Walmart, Target, ShopRite, and Visa (any amount) will be accepted in our tuition box.

Advanced registration for Showstoppers auditions required by Jan. 5th using sign up link:

<https://forms.gle/AMaXcoUAuH8jo3Kf6>



Performance Opportunities

Our dance programs are performance-based rather than competition-based. In addition to our holiday observation program in December and our recital in June, we continue to offer the following opportunities for our dancers to perform:

Run with Rotary: We are thrilled to participate at this community event on April 30th, 2023 @ Skillman Park! Join the DF team! All dancers 1st grade and up, and their families, should join our Dance Factory Team this April to **help us win the largest team award!** The largest team will win the \$500 prize money, which we will donate to Safe+Sound, a safe haven and program for those at risk for abuse. **There is a mandatory rehearsal on April 29th, 2pm-4pm, for dancers who would like to perform with us at the event. All Showstopper Dancers are required to perform. [Click here to sign up!](#)**



The Dance Factory Summer Tour Team 2023 will take place from July 24th- July 28th. Dancers will rehearse at the studio from Monday through Thursday and perform at local nursing homes, Fal-Rooney Camp, and the Somerset Patriots Game on Friday! **All dancers currently in 2nd grade or older (3rd grade in 2023-2024) and currently taking a Jazz class are eligible to participate. [Click here to access the Summer Tour Team registration form.](#)**





The Dance Factory on Social Media

Follow the official Dance Factory Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/thedancefactory1>) and Instagram ([@thedancefactoryinsta](https://www.instagram.com/thedancefactoryinsta)) pages and like our posts, photos and videos! We use social media to post studio announcements, updates, and closures in case of inclement weather. We also love seeing your posts from the studio – don't forget to tag us!

Class Zoom Information



Family & friends who cannot join us for Holiday Observation in person (12/12-12/17) are welcome to join via Zoom! See class Zoom codes below.



Below are the studio Zoom Meeting IDs and Passcodes in case your dancer needs to attend class from home for any reason. **All classes on the same day will utilize the same Meeting ID and passcode.** Please save these and take note of the Zoom codes for your dancer's class(es).

| Studio A Zoom Codes | | |
|---------------------|---------------|----------|
| Day | Meeting ID | Passcode |
| Monday | 870 3942 7058 | Dfdancer |
| Tuesday | 833 2455 6306 | Dfdancer |
| Wednesday | 822 8698 5445 | Dfdancer |
| Thursday | 890 9508 1743 | Dfdancer |
| Friday | 881 7960 4690 | Dfdancer |
| Saturday | 833 3572 0149 | Dfdancer |

It is important to us to maintain a clean and welcoming environment for everyone who visits our studio and we ask that you help us with this. Dancers who are sick should not attend in-person classes and may attend class from home via Zoom using the provided Meeting IDs and Passcodes. Thank you for your cooperation.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact us.

From our dance family to yours, we wish you a joyous holiday season!

With Love,
Miss Kelly, Miss Anna, Ms. Caroline, and Ms. Danica