

Starz Dancer

Denver Dance Starz Competition Team Newsletter

Vol. 2

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January 2009

Welcome Back

Happy 2009! We hope you all had a relaxing and fun-filled holiday and break. Now that we are back, we are looking forward to preparing for our upcoming performance/competition season and the annual Summer Recital. It will all be here before we know it!

Competition Info

We are just about 6 weeks away from our first competition: Dance Champs on February 20-22 at Aurora Central High School. This competition is for: ALL PRIVATES, STAR MAKERS, STAR BRIGHTS and STAR DAZZLERS.

March 13-15 is the Spotlight Dance Cup at Pinnacle Charter School. This competition is a mandatory competition for: ALL PRIVATES, STAR MAKERS, STAR BRIGHTS, STAR DAZZLERS, STAR STRIKERS, STAR LIGHTS, BRIGHT STARZ, SPARKLING STARZ, ALL STARZ, and DANCE COMPANY.

Finally, ALL GROUPS, PRIVATES, SMALL GROUPS, SUPER GROUPS and our very own STAR DADS will compete at our final competition, the KAR Regional competition on May 15-17 at Wasson High School in Colorado Springs.

New Competition Team Parents

If your dancer is new to a competition group this year, **don't forget there will be a MANDATORY meeting at the studio on Saturday, January 24. The meeting will be at 10:00.** It will be held at the ANNEX. Please plan to attend this meeting, as you will be getting lots of IMPORTANT information regarding upcoming performances and competitions. This meeting is also open to any returning parents that want a refresher on competition, team make-up, organization and competition ins and outs.

Recital Costumes

Saturday, January 10 from 10:00-2:00 p.m. is Recital Costume Preview Day. We will be sizing all Level 1 and 2 dancers for recital costumes. This INCLUDES the BALLET, LYRICAL & CT HIP HOP classes.

If you do NOT feel they need to be re-measured, you will still need to stop by the studio during the week of January 13-17 and sign off on the size to be ordered. We will NOT order costumes unless the size is signed off by a PARENT.

If you feel your dancer has grown and needs to be re-measured, please plan to bring them to the studio on January 12 to be sized. ALL sizing MUST be completed by January 17. ALL competition team dancers MUST perform in their ballet routine for the recital. You do NOT need to pay for your recital costumes at this time. This fee was included in your yearly payment plan.

Costumes

Most costumes have arrived or will be arriving very shortly. **Please write your dancer's name on the tags of all pieces.** This will assist us when we need to collect them for stoning, etc. Ernie will be here the week of January 12-18 to finish up with costumes.

We will be working on costumes - stoning, accessories, hats, etc. at the ANNEX on Saturday, January 31 and Saturday, February 7 from 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. We need lots of volunteers (Adults only, please) to help get everything finished in time for our first competition. Dinner will be provided around 5:00. Snacks and drinks will be available throughout the day. Please sign up at the front desk if you plan to attend, so we know how many to plan for. Don't forget per the Competition Team Agreement: **All parents MUST volunteer a minimum of 2 hours to work on costumes.**

Shoes

Shoes have been ordered. We still have many dancers that have not been sized. If you did not bring your dancer in to get sized before Winter Break, you will need to take care of this immediately. We will have the sizing shoes available at the annex for ONE week only - until Saturday, January 10. After that, we will no longer be sizing for competition shoes.

When the shoes arrive, please remember that you will not be able to pick them up until they are paid for in full. Once you pick up your dancer's shoes, have them try shoes on to verify fit. If they fit correctly, WRITE YOUR DANCER'S NAME in ALL SHOES. Do NOT write names in shoes until you have verified the fit. If there are any problems with sizing, please notify the studio immediately.

Competition Team Make-Up

DDS has a uniform way that ALL competition team dancers MUST wear their make-up for competitions and performances. If you are new to competition and YOU will be doing your dancer's make-up, we will cover the process at the parent meeting. However, DANCERS that are doing their OWN make-up MUST also attend the parent meeting on the 24th so you can learn the make-up process. We will go over the make-up first thing at 10:00 and then you can leave. Make-up kits and replacement make-up will be available on January 24th.

Starz Showcase

The annual Starz Showcase, spotlighting our solos, duets and trios will be held on Sunday, April 5 at 3:00 p.m. More info to follow.

In the Know

Now that things are beginning to kick into high gear, **parents are REMINDED that it's YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to stay informed on ALL the latest info regarding performances, costumes, extra rehearsals, etc.** Please do NOT rely on your dancer (no matter how old they are) as they do not always communicate information.

It is important that you stop into the studio on a weekly basis to check up on what's going on. You can also **consult the website, your group moms or e-mail me for all the latest info.**

Performances

Our 2009 Performance Schedule is being set. It will be coming out within the next week.

Performances are a very important part of being on the DDS Competition Team. They are NOT an option to attend. Although we do understand that sometimes there are personal conflicts with scheduled performances, please remember that **PER THE COMPETITION AGREEMENT, dancers are expected to attend all performances. When dancers are missing from a performance it affects the group and it affects the overall performance.**

There are several reasons why we do performances:

- *to allow dancers an opportunity to perform in front of an audience BEFORE getting on stage at competition

- *to allow us to check for any potential choreography problems

- *to allow us to check costumes for any issues that may arise when dancing in them BEFORE you wear them on stage

- *to provide our dancers with the opportunity to give back to our community

When you receive the schedule, please review it carefully and plan to attend the performances listed. Performances should not last any more than 1 hour.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Kadin Mestas who performed in the Nutcracker with the Moscow Ballet.

Important Dates

January 7-12		Shoe Fees DUE
January 10	10:00-2:00	Recital Costume Sizing
January 17	9:00-5:00	MANDATORY COSTUMES
January 18	10:00-2:00	MANDATORY COSTUMES
January 24	10:00	MANDATORY New Comp Team Parents Class
January 24	2:00	Performance at Sunny Acres
January 31	12:00-8:00	Costume Stoning
January 31	2:00	Performance at Elms Haven
February 5	12:00-8:00	Costume Stoning
February 21-22	TBA	Dance Champs Competition
February 28	2:00	Performance at Sunny Acres
March 13-14	TBA	Spotlight Competition
April 5	3:00	Starz Showcase
May 8-14	TBA	MANDATORY Rehearsals
May 15-17	TBA	KAR Competition